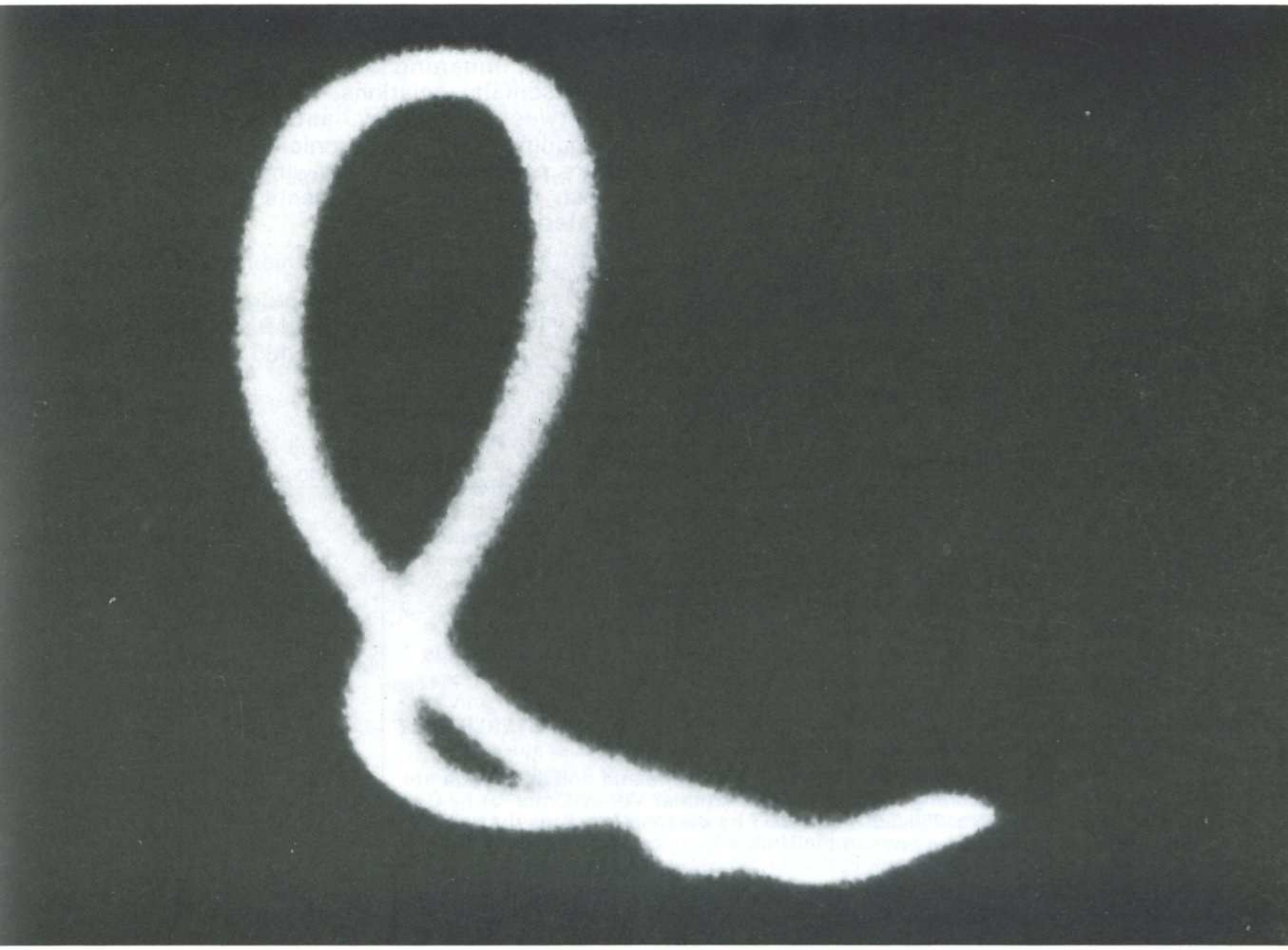
FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

Volume 26, No. 2, 1980 £1



A closer look at the remarkable single frame loop made by the UFO in the Australian TV film taken off New Zealand on 31 December 1978

THE NZ FILM:
A REPLY TO THE DEBUNKERS

by Quentin Fogarty See page 21

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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An international journal devoted to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects

Volume 26, No. 2
(published August 1980)

CONTENTS

Unusual encounter in Jaraba, Spain
Dr. F. Louange & J. L. Castro . . . 4
Seven UFOs seen from B-36 bomber
Dr. Richard F. Haines . . . 6
The Kaikoura Controversy
Kevin R. Berry . . . 13
The NZ film: a reply to the debunkers
Quentin Fogarty . . . 16
FSR Bookshelf — 4
Janet & Colin Bord . . . 19
Toronto Abduction Report
L. J. Fenwick & J. Muskat . 21
Mail Bag . . . 27
World round-up . . . 29
Do airports attract UFOs?
Jenny Randles . . . 30
Postscript to New Elgin
Patricia Donaldson . . . 31
Research Report — 2
Jenny Randles . . . 32

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HOAX, OR CONSPIRACY?

IT has always been the policy of this REVIEW to bring to the notice of its readers details of items which we have published, which have subsequently become suspect, or which have been shown to be false. Here — as so much time has elapsed since publication — are details of affairs which have fallen into one of those categories.

On February 8, 1966, the Spanish newspapers published a report sent to them by the CIFRA Agency to the effect that, at about 8.00 p.m. on the previous day, an orange-coloured flying saucer had landed briefly in the grounds of a house in the Madrid suburb of Aluche. Two witnesses testified to having seen the object, and an area of burnt ground was said to have been found at the site. One witness said his name was Vicente Ortuño, but the other would not at first reveal his name for fear of ridicule.

An account of the event was sent to FLYING SAUCER REVIEW by Antonio Ribera, who said that in its issue of February 16, 1966, the magazine *Porqué* carried an article by special correspondent J. L. Pimental who had located and interviewed the other witness, a Sr. José Luís Jordán. Antonio Ribera and his colleague Eugenio Danyans followed up the lead. Sr. Jordán wrote to them in great detail, and described the approach of a disc-shaped luminous object, its brief touchdown and departure. Sr. Jordán, an engineer, had been driving past the grounds of the house, and saw the quaintly-curved three-legged landing gear; he told also of markings [)|(] on the underside of the object which, as it rose ". . .vanished as though it had suddenly 'gone out' like a light."

Antonio Ribera's article "The Madrid Landing" was published in FSR Vol. 12, No. 3, May-June 1966.

One year and four months later, in the evening of June 1, 1967, another close approach of a disc-shaped object was claimed to have been observed, and photographed, by a witness who said that at the time he was taking photographs of his girl friend in an open space bordering the Extramadura Highway close by the housing estate of San José de Valderas. The photographer failed to reveal his identity, and left the negatives at a photographic laboratory for Sr. San Antonio, photographic reporter of *Informaciones*. It should be noted that for this incident Sr. José Luís Jordán, his appetite whetted by Aluche, had now turned investigator.

A second photographer, who stated that he had been standing near the young couple, also took some shots of the object, and sent two prints to Barcelona writer Marius Lleget, whose address had been given in a book on UFOs which he had published. This second photographer signed himself "Antonio Pardo" — roughly the equivalent of "Bill Brown" in English — but gave no address and proved untraceable.

Antonio Ribera and his colleague Rafael Farriols seemed to have been happy enough with their investigation to publish a book with the confident title *Un Caso Perfecto;* FSR carried an article on the case by Sr. Ribera in its issue for September-October 1969 (Vol. 15, No. 5). The prints of the photographs which accompanied the article were so enlarged that it could be seen that the grain structure had not been tampered with. The object was tilted in some of the pictures to show the)|(sign of 1966 with the addition of a cross bar to give some

resemblance to a symbol in the Cyrillic alphabet. A further point dealt with in the article was the alleged discovery of artifacts where another UFO was said to have landed at Santa Mónica. These consisted of a number of small sealed metal tubes, and the press evinced great interest when a circular letter was received by business people from a "Henri Dagousset", in which a reward of 18000 pesetas was offered for each tube sent to his secretary at a Madrid P.O.Box number. A part of a tube was recovered from a boy, at a small price, by none other than the elusive "Antonio Pardo" who sent it, and the plastic strip it contained, to Sr. Lleget, from whom it was forwarded to Srs. Ribera and Farriols. The strip had embossed on it a similar type of sign to that seen on the belly of the San José de Valderas saucer. The items were sent for analysis to the Spanish National Technical Institute for Aeronautics and Space, and the results were surprising to say the least: the metal was nickel of ". . .an extraordinarily high degree of purity, while the plastic strip was polyvinyl flouride, a type of plastic at that time not available commercially. . . and which, up to that time, had been manufactured only by the American firm Dupont Nemours."

"Was it an extraterrestrial craft?" asked Sr. Ribera. While he was not sure on that point, he reiterated that "the object 'was there' all right. . ."

With the benefit of hindsight it is easy to see that alarm bells should have been ringing about the photographs. There was another matter engaging our attention, however, and that was the matter of the UMMO documents which had been circulating for some years; indeed we had been "sitting on them" for a long time, and continued to do so for several years. The whole matter was very perplexing, but when the San José de Valderas photographs turned up one thing was paramountly obvious, and that was that the sign on the underbelly of the photographed object was of the same configuration as the "seal" to be found on the "authentic" UMMO documents which were being distributed around the globe.

After much heart-searching, FSR published a summary of the UMMO events and papers, by Antonio Ribera, with no outlandish claims being made (in all conscience the contents of the documents were sufficiently outlandish!). It is interesting to note that in one of his conclusions Sr. Ribera proposed a hypothesis that ". . .some unknown *terrestrial* agency is trying to discredit the whole business of 'flying saucers' and 'extraterrestrials' and is launching this complicated manoeuvre which, when the opportune moment comes, will be exposed, thus bringing the most fearful ridicule upon all those who have taken seriously the existence of 'Ummites'." He thereafter refers to the secret clause, 4a — which was uncovered by the late Dr. James E. McDonald — added to the recommendations of the Robertson Commission of January 1963, in which the CIA called for the debunking of saucer reports by the services.

The five-part UMMO article finally appeared in FSR Vol. 20, Nos. 4 & 5 (1974) and Vol. 21, Nos. 1, 2 & 3/4 (1975). In FSR Vol. 20, No. 5, Gordon Creighton made "A brief comment on the 'UMMO' affair" in which he pointed out that it had been claimed that ". . .it all began in France in 1950 when the 'Ummites' allegedly made their first landing at a place near La Javie (Department of the Basses Alpes)." Apparently the French authorities were very concerned — as well as, over the years, some leading French researchers — and helicopters were used in a search for the lonely farmhouse where the interlopers allegedly had made their first base. The previous owners of the dilapidated farm were discovered living in great opulence in fine villas on the French Riviera, and were keeping their mouths shut like clams.

One was forced to concede that if UMMO were a hoax, then it must be a pretty massive undertaking.

In 1977 a bulletin put out by the Center for UFO Studies, edited by Mrs. Mimi Hynek, carried an analysis by Dr. Claude Poher of the San José de Valderas photographs, and of the UMMO documents, which latter, he stated, were part of a monstrous hoax — which according to our information at the time seemed to be something of a 'U-turn.'

Dr. Poher pointed out that 50% of the information in the UMMO documents is correct, while the rest is manifestly false; that the level of scientific knowledge required to create the documents. . . is about that of the first year of graduate study of the sciences; that there seems little probability that the affair could have been created by only one person. . . and that the background necessary for such a hoax, if it was a hoax, exceeds the capabilities of a private group. As for the San José de Valderas photographs, Dr. Poher had conducted a study on them over several months using the impressive facilities of the National Centre for Space Studies at Toulouse. He concluded ". . .that the photographs are a hoax, produced by using a small model of translucent plastic on which the insignia was drawn in ink. This model was suspended for the photographer by means of a very fine line, great care being taken not to let the 'fishing rod' appear on the negatives. This explains the normal line of sight. Dr. Poher felt highly suspicious of the part played by the "much-too-omniprescent Sr. Jordán," and states that ". . .the entire UMMO affair is tied up with these sightings [Aluche and San José de Valderas photographs] and all of it collapses altogether."

Dr. Poher's findings on the photographs were confirmed by a further report in the bulletin under the signatures of William Spaulding (Director of Ground Saucer Watch, Western Division) and Fred Adrian (photographic consultant GSW) who performed a computer photographic analysis of the San José de Valderas photographs. Among their conclusions we read that ". . .the object measures less than eight inches in diameter; the camera was positioned 'low' on the ground to give the illusion of 'object' height and distance; edge enhancement revealed a linear structure representing a definite supporting thread above the unidentified object.

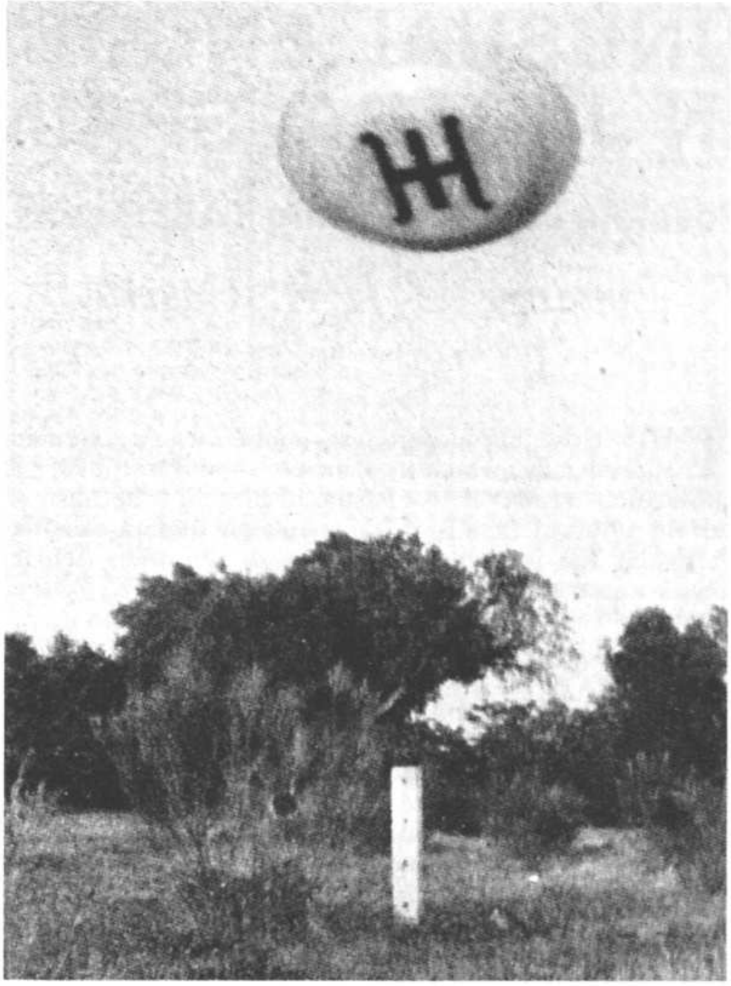
Unfortunately the picture reproductions in the bulletin which accompany Bill Spaulding's analysis do not lend themselves to further reproduction in FSR. In the circumstances, as FSR had published the photographs long before the Center for UFO Studies existed, and as Mr. Spaulding had already had an article on his computer experiments published in our journal, we expected the analyses would be sent to us in due course: they were not. As time passed, publication of even these basic details was put aside and overlooked in face of other problems.

We accept then that the San José de Valderas photo-

graphs were the result of an elaborate hoax, and that there *may* have been some tie-up between them and the Aluche sighting. However, we cannot agree that the UMMO house of cards comes tumbling down because of the faked photographs. The alleged connection between the photographs and the UMMO affair is the symbol — which some say is like a letter in the Cyrillic alphabet. But UMMO documents were in circulation long before the appearance of the faked photographs, and it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that the hoaxer could have got the idea for the symbol painted on the underbelly of his model from the "seal" on an UMMO document.

As for the statements contained in the UMMO documents, the quality of most of these seem to be about par for the contactee message course. So who could have been involved in an undertaking of the size of UMMO? Could it have been a terrestrial agency bent on bringing ufology into disrepute? Could it have been such a conspiracy? Reading between Dr. Poher's lines (". . .background necessary for such a hoax, *if it was a hoax,** exceeds the capabilities of a private group") we suspect that either he may have learned something about some covert official involvement, or that he was tired of the affair and wished to have done with it. Antonio Ribera's hints about the CIA were quite open and, despite that Agency's protests that it had closed its UFO files in 1952, papers revealing its continued interest in the subject were recently winkled out of it by William Spaulding and his Ground Saucer Watch in a Freedom of Information lawsuit.

So was there a debunking conspiracy? If it was engineered by some terrestrial agency then it misfired, for the UMMO process "ground exceeding slow" and, as far as we can tell, the ridicule didn't result in nation-wide rib-splitting mirth in Spain, let alone in the rest of the world.



One of the San José de Valderas hoax photographs.

As far as we can see it seems unlikely that any terrestrial agency was involved.

Which leaves us wondering whether or not the stimulus for the wretched UMMO business may have come from something else. Something with a vested interest in sowing confusion among the ranks of those caught up in the UFO mystery.

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*Editor's emphasis; Dr. Poher adopts a different stance here from that of a few paragraphs earlier in the Bulletin article, when he made the bald statement that the whole thing was a "monstrous hoax."

PRICE INCREASE

Inflation, which to us means increases in the cost of printing, paper and envelopes, postage, telephone charges and so on, has forced on us another increase in the price of *Flying Saucer Review.*

With effect from this issue the cover price will be £1.00, and the subscription £5.70 per annum. The prices of back numbers have also been adjusted.

This, and the continuing rise in the rate of exchange of the pound against the US dollar means a further revision in the dollar price. This will now be US$2.45 per copy, with a subscription rate of US$14.00. While these figures are calculated to cover banks' exchange commission on personal cheques, readers in the United States, and indeed in all countries overseas, are still recommended to remit the above-stated British Sterling amount by bank draft or money order, which means the subscriber doesn't pay more than he or she needs to pay, and we receive the correct amount.

UNUSUAL ENCOUNTER IN JARABA, SPAIN

Possible CE III involving TASTE sensation by the witness

F. Louange & J. L. Casero

THIS close encounter case could only be studied superficially, which in principle should not justify a publication. However, we hasten to present it because of certain unusual details in the witness's report, and in particular the involvement of a *Taste* sensation, which makes it potentially interesting for research.

Dr. Louange, a French scientist, is computer manager at the satellite tracking station of the European Space Agency operating near Madrid from whence ". . . the IUE satellite is controlled, a telescope in geosynchronous orbit manoeuvred from the ground which down-links images representing ultraviolet spectra." J. L. Casero works for a Spanish company which is under contract to ESA, and he is head of the photo lab which is part of the computer division headed by Dr. Louange.

EDITOR

The witness

This is a man around fifty, in the public eye, presently assuming official functions in Spain, who was pursued for his leftist ideology during the past regime. He had only mentioned his experience to one very intimate friend, having no interest in making it known in his professional entourage. It happened that this friend was also a friend of the co-author, J. L. Casero, and that during a conversation between the latter two on ufological research, this case of "close encounter of the third kind" was mentioned. It took the authors several months of patience, of phone calls through the common friend, as well as a long reassuring letter, to obtain from the witness a telephone interview, during which J. L. Casero could take note of the sequence of events.

Later, after new approaches, a short meeting was organized between the witness and J. L. Casero in a madrilenian bar. There, they re-read together, corrected and completed the written notes taken during the telephone interview. The witness drew a few sketches, but refused to give them away, so that nothing from his hand would remain from this first and last meeting; J. L. Casero had therefore to copy the sketches in the bar.

These details — which sound like an espionage novel — are only reported here in order to show to what extent the witness was little inclined to talk about his experience, accepting only under his friend's insistance. They explain why, now, the expectation of any additional cooperation can be excluded. On the other hand, the witness's personality and behaviour plead in favour of a high credibility.

The following report reflects all bits of information provided by the witness, without additions or deletions.

The experience

It took place around mid-October 1978 in Jaraba (province of Zaragoza, Spain) in the "Camino de la Hoz Seca," near "Pena Palomera," at the entrance of a canyon. Around 7 or 8 a.m., the witness was on his way to photograph nests of "Milopas" (a variety of eagles) with his *Canon* camera equipped with a 200 mm objective and loaded with Kodachrome film. The continuous cawing of crows could be heard. Suddenly, all became silent. He goes on walking, then positions himself between fences near a post for rabbit hunters. He mounts his camera with the teleobjective on the tripod, and focuses on the supposed nest. Surprised by reflections in the view finder, he looks around himself but does not notice anything abnormal. He then starts to hear a weak buzzing (*"fusssss"*) which disappears suddenly, and turns once more to focus his camera.

After a while, he feels uneasy, with an impression of "metallic teeth" and the hair at the nape of his neck stands on end. The camera and his watch seem warm. He turns around and sees, at a distance of around 20 metres, a seemingly ovoidal object surrounded by small "antennas," for which he estimates a diameter of 5 metres by comparison with a *Dodge* (see fig. 1). There

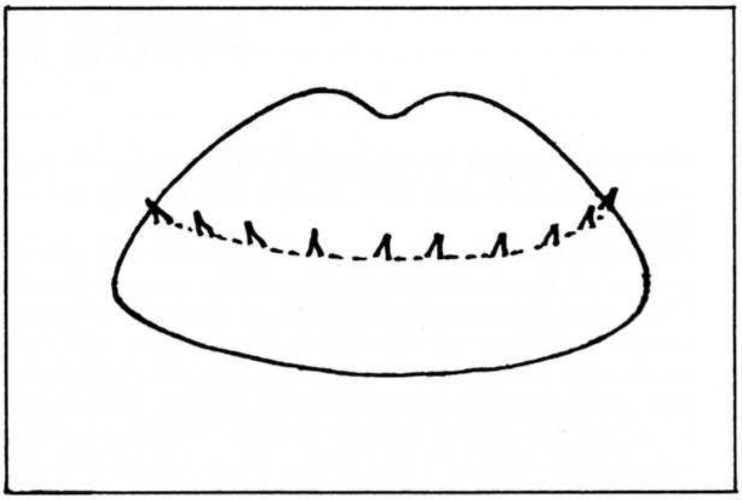

Figure 1: The object on the ground.

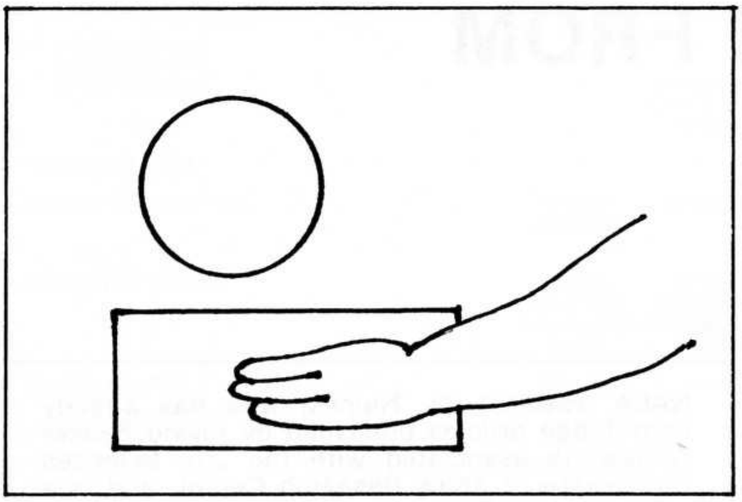

Figure 2: Sphere floating above the box.

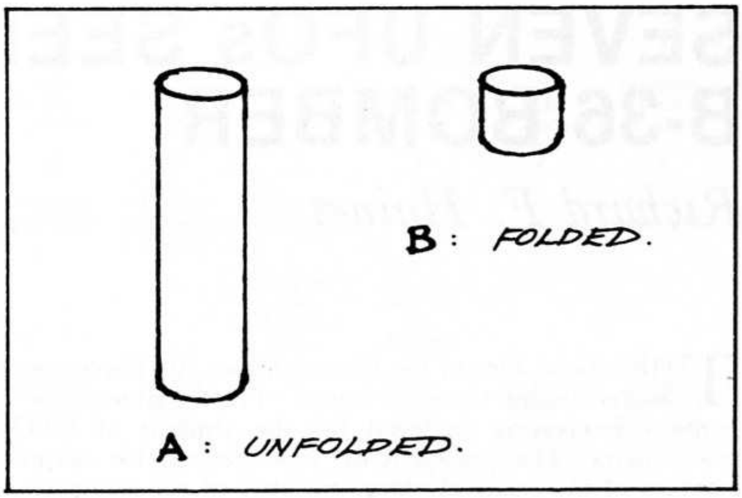

Figure 3: The tube.

were also two "individuals" 1 m 90 or more tall, wearing blue-grey suits, apparently made of dull plastic, and tight belts. They seem to be blond. One of them is bent over a tube, apparently metallic, which enters the ground. The other one carries a box above which a sphere seems to float (see fig. 2). The *"fusssss"*, which had reappeared meanwhile, now stops. The tube carrier stands up and makes gestures to the witness, who stands up too and, while approaching a bit, feels an impression of heat. Speaking loudly, he asks the individuals whether they need help, but hears his own voice "distorted." A little afraid, he stops and asks them what they are doing. The individual goes on making gestures, and suddenly draws the tube out of the ground, "folds" it (is it telescopic? see fig. 3), and goes to the object with his companion.

The *"fusssss"* now reappears louder and louder, and the witness starts feeling again, more intensely, the "electric" sensation in the nape of his neck and his mouth, as well as vibrations in the ground. He goes back to his camera. The object rises up about two metres, while the sound increases. The witness does not notice any air movement, or any visible thruster; however, from certain angles, he believes he can distinguish three circular spots on the underside of the object (see fig. 4). He has time to take 2 or 3 pictures, then the object rises once more and disappears. The *"fusssss"* disappears at the same time, but the **metallic taste** in the mouth remains, *and will last around 2 days*. The witness does not notice traces, except a small funnel shaped hole in the ground, with a diameter of around 20 centimeters (see fig. 5).

Once developed, the film will appear completely fogged.

The witness, who to date did not believe in UFOs, believes he has just seen one, but decides not to talk about it.

Conclusion

The reader will realise how frustrating it has been for the authors to have no possibility of making further study of this case, in which quite a few concrete and unusual pieces of information are reported: sensation of heat, metallic taste, distortion of sound, fogged film. . . With a more cooperative witness, it would have been mandatory to conduct an on-site investigation, to use hypnotic regression with a view to try and clarify many points of the story, to carry out a complete study of the state of the witness's teeth at the time of the event, to analyze the fogged film, and so on. . .

None of these have been done nor will it be possible to do them, and the only value of this "raw" report resides in possible correlations with other cases of similar characteristics. It is worth noting that in the same area and around the same period, several abduction cases, still under study, have been reported.

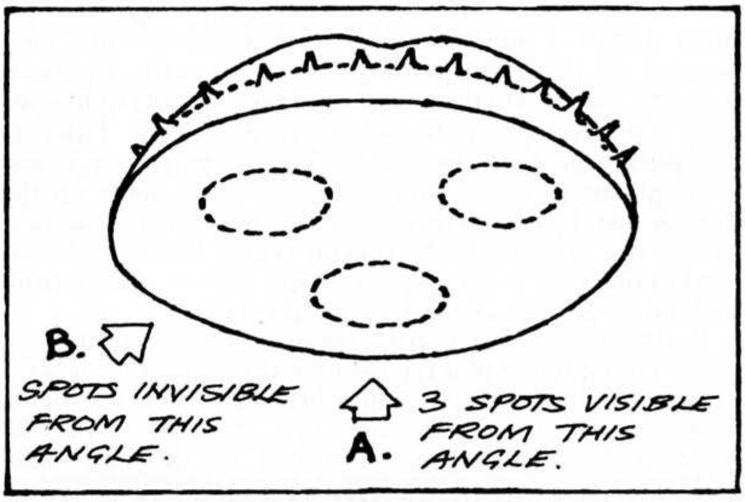

Figure 4: The object rising.

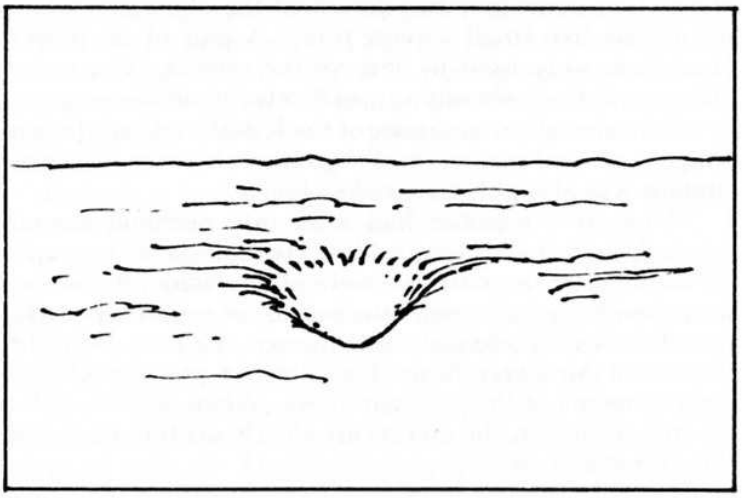

Figure 5: Conical hole in the ground.

SEVEN UFOs SEEN FROM B-36 BOMBER

Richard F. Haines

THE official files of the United States Air Force conducted under the code name "Project Blue Book" contain interesting material for the student of UFO phenomena. The present case was selected for review because of the relatively large number of eye witnesses, their training, and unique vantage point from which the sighting took place, namely at 18,000 feet altitude. The evidence consists of an official Air Force report, individual signed statements by eight crew members involved, maps, and several black and white photographs.

NASA scientist Dr. Haines, who has already contributed articles published by *Flying Saucer Review*, is associated with the Life Sciences Directorate at Ames Research Center, and is a member of the Center for UFO Studies founded by Dr. J. Allen Hynek. Editor of a fascinating book *UFO Phenomena and the Behavioral Scientist* — a compendium of works on phenomena associated with UFOs — Dr. Haines now has had published an important new work *Observing UFOs* (see Janet & Colin Bord's review in *FSR Bookshelf — 4* on page 19 of this issue)

EDITOR

Case Summary

"While flying on a training mission on 19 May 1952 in the vicinity of San Angelo, Texas, an RB-36 crew of the 31st Strat(egic) Recon(naissance) Squadron, 5th Strat Recon Wing, observed seven unidentified flying objects ahead of their aircraft. The RB-36 was at an altitude of 18,000 feet, indicating 189 mph (214 mph TAS), and the weather conditions in the area were CAVU, with winds aloft of 35 knots from 315 degrees. The time of the sighting was 0148 GCT, and the aircraft's exact position at the time of the sighting was 30-37 N; 100-47 W, heading 301 deg true. The seven objects appeared at a position of 11 o'clock to the aircraft at an estimated distance of 50 to 75 miles, and were stacked in a vertical column, the bottom of which was estimated to be at 25,000 feet and the top at 60,000 feet. Several conflicting reports were received on the length of time the objects were in view, but it is believed that the time ranged from 15 to 20 minutes. The objects were lost from sight at a position approximately 30-53 N; 101-20 W, as light conditions were becoming very poor since the aircraft was flying in the direction of the setting sun. The objects were white in colour and no estimate of their size could be given. One crew member described the objects as white doughnuts like small vapour trails. A pair of six power binoculars were used to observe the objects. The radar observer did not see any unusual returns on his scope.

"The aircraft commander of the RB-36 radioed the San Angelo ground station, and a ground observer from that station was also able to see the objects.

"One crew member had a 35 mm personal camera aboard, loaded with colour film. He took six photographs of the objects, but only two were of any value. These two transparencies have been attached to the report forwarded to the Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. The attached photographs are enlargements of the transparencies. When viewed with a 35 mm projector, the objects are clearly distinguishable in the transparencies."

Thus ended the critical details of the Project Blue Book file's summary report. This was followed by statements by eight crew-members, four of which included sketches of what they witnessed. Rather than present all eight statements in their entirety, Table 1 presents a comparative summary of the reported sighting details for purposes of cross comparison. Quotation marks are used to indicate the exact word(s) used in the original statement.

Crew stations

It is instructive to have some idea of the location of the various crew sighting stations and interior structure in this aircraft, because such factors play a part in determining what each eye witness can see. Unfortunately, it is not possible to be sure exactly which aircraft station is referred to in Table 1 in all cases because the microfilm copy of this case (received from the Library of Congress) had deleted this information. Nevertheless, three station locations were positively identified and two more (i.e., aircraft commander; co-pilot) were surmised based upon contextual details. This bomber carried a full crew of 22 men. Figure 1 illustrates the crew stations for nine men located in the front portion of the aircraft. Positions labelled 3 and 5 are the locations of the co-pilot (right seat) and commander (left seat), respectively. External visibility from these two seats was excellent since it was through the multiple panes of glass which made up the bubble-like canopy. An idea of this is given in Figure 2 which is a drawing of the cockpit region looking forward and to the right at the co-pilot's right seat — as seen from behind — as well as the navigator's station.

A drawing of the interior arrangement of equipment and sighting dome of a typical forward sighting "blister" (i.e., plexiglass approx. hemispheric dome) is shown in Figure 3. It should be noted that visibility from this location would have been impeded by the gun sight

ILLUSTRATIONS COMMENCE ON PAGE 8

Number (arbitrary) and Crewman's Aircraft Station[1]	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	?	probably commander (left)	left aft blister	? (2)	?	left forward blister	right rear scanner	probably pilot (rt. seat)
Number of UFOs	7	7	5	7	7	7	4	7
Date/Time of Sighting	5/19/52 2005 CST	5/19/52 —	5/19/52 2005 CST	5/19/52 just before sunset	5/19/52 2005 CST	5/19/52 —	— —	5/19/52 2005 CST
Location of Aircraft	approx. 30 mi SW San Angelo, Texas	30 mi SW San Angelo, Texas	—	—	SW of San Angelo, Texas	45 min. NW of San Antonio	—	—
Details of UFOs	Circular part seemed larger and fuzzier	—	—	small white clouds	—	very white "phos-phoric trails" (sic)	"gleaming balls"	"bright lights" "circular for about 30 min- then spread out in the W"
Location of UFOs in Relation to the Aircraft	"ahead and higher"	"ahead, on course"	seen under left wing at 12 o'clock	ahead and slightly to left and 10-15° higher	"seen in the West"	10° above flight line at 11 o'clock	—	"in the West"
UFO shape (Verbal Description Only)	"circular lights, very small, white donut in the sky"	—	—	"small white clouds" (through 6x magn. binoc.)	—	—	—	—
Sketch made? (See Fig. 7 for copies of sketches)	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Location of UFOs in Relation to Each Other	"one above the other" at 60,000 to 25,000 feet	highest at 40,000 ft, in 1,000 foot intervals	—	"vertical formation"	"vertical formation"	"vertical line"	"straight line"	—
UFOs Thought to be Visible Due to	Sun's reflection	"glowing"	"Sun's reflection"	"bright white lights"	—	—	—	reflection of setting sun
Explanation Offered	"fuzzy, hazy appearance of dissipating vapour trail"	"vapour trail"	aircraft in a spiral descent-vapour trail	none given	none given	"must be vapour trail"	none given	none given

Table 1: Aircraft Crewmember Statement Comparison

normally mounted on its support pedestal. That is, there was minimal room to get one's head beside the gun sight so as to view directly forward.

It is known for sure that at least two crew stations involved were in the aft part of the aircraft, namely number 3 (left aft blister) and number 7 (right rear scanner). The location of the "blister" out of which these two crewmen saw the phenomena is shown in Figure 4 which is an external, left-rear view of the aircraft (labelled 3).

A drawing of what a typical lower and upper aft sighting station looked like from the inside is shown in Figures 5 and 6, respectively. Again, it may be seen that it is relatively difficult, but not impossible, to look out of these sighting domes directly forward.

The manually aimed gun sight shown in the above figures could be unlatched and swung out of the way when necessary.

UFO sighting data

The data consists of eye witness reports made by eight crewmen (summarized in Table 1), sketches made by four crewmen (see Figure 7), and photographs taken by a crewman with his own 35 mm camera from an unspecified crew station. One of these photos is reproduced here as Figure 8.

Referring to the drawings of Figure 7, the written comment given for the top drawing (A) was: ". . .I observed seven unidentified glowing objects ahead, on course. We continued on course and approached them for about an hour. On closer observation they appeared to me to be vapour trails, the highest at approximately 40,000 ft, spaced down at 1,000 ft. intervals as sketched."

The written comment accompanying the second drawing (B) was ". . .seven bright lights appeared in the west in trail. . . The lights appeared to be circular for about 30 minutes and then seemed to spread or trail out like a vapour trail. . . As we flew along we did not seem to

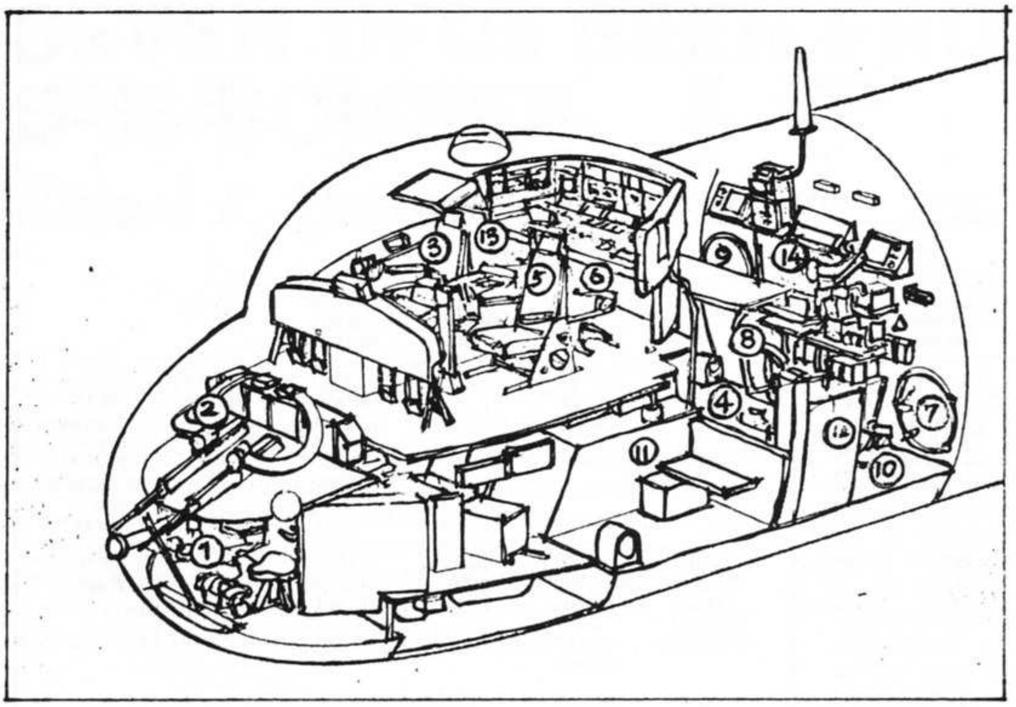

Figure 1: B-36 Flight Deck. See below for key:—

1. Weather observer/Nose gunner.
2. Nose turret.
3. Co-pilot.
4. Second engineer.
5. Commander.
6. First engineer.
7. Left fwd. sighting stn.
8. Radio operator.
9. Communication tube door.
10. Left sighting platform.
11. Stowage rack/dining table.
12. Hot cup.
13. Photo-navigator.
14. Radar observer.

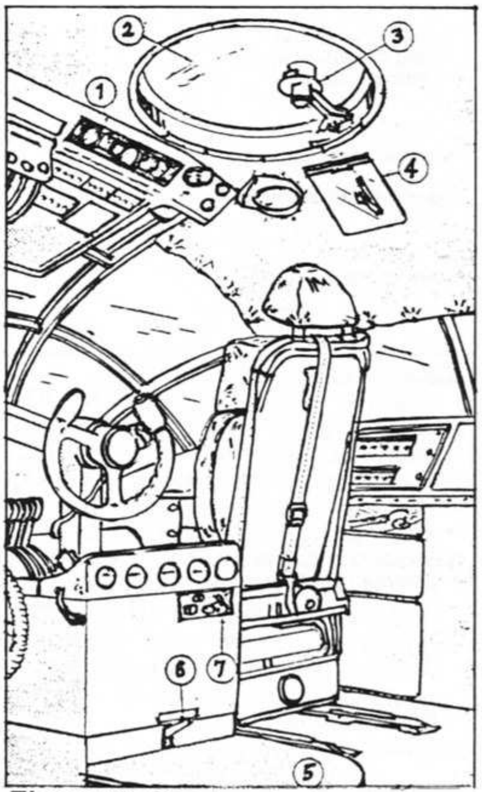

Figure 2: See key below:—
1. Astrodome control panel.
2. Astrodome.
3. Astro compass support.
4. Clip board.
5. Sighting platform.
6. Platform control lever.
7. Co-pilot's AN/ARC3 control.

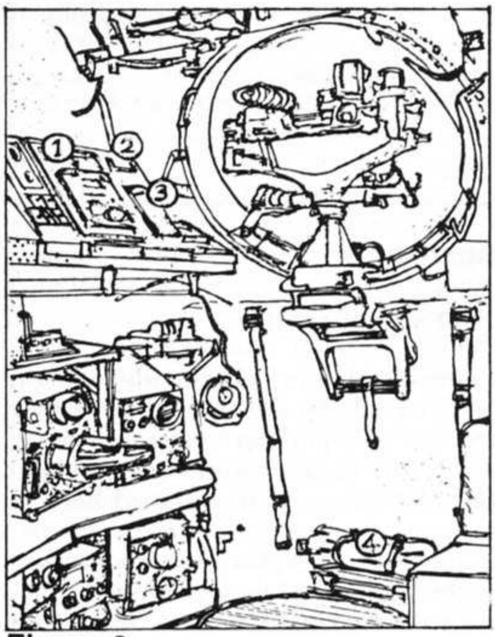

Figure 3
1. Turret control.
2. Interphone control.
3. Oxygen controls.
4. Stowed sling-type seat.

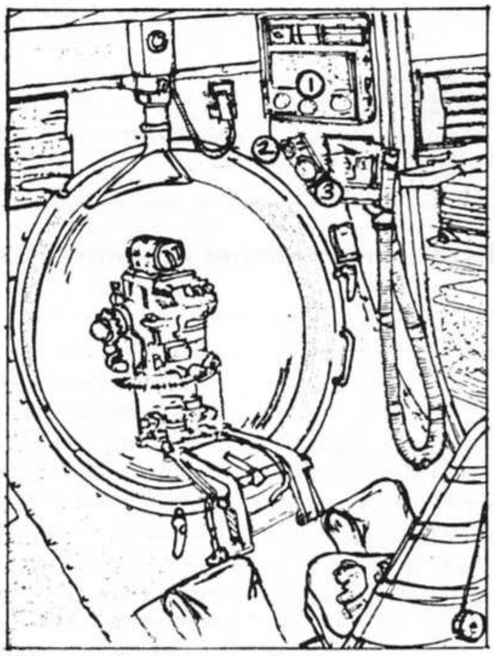

Figure 5: Lower aft stn.
1. Turret control.
2. Interphone control.
3. Oxygen controls.

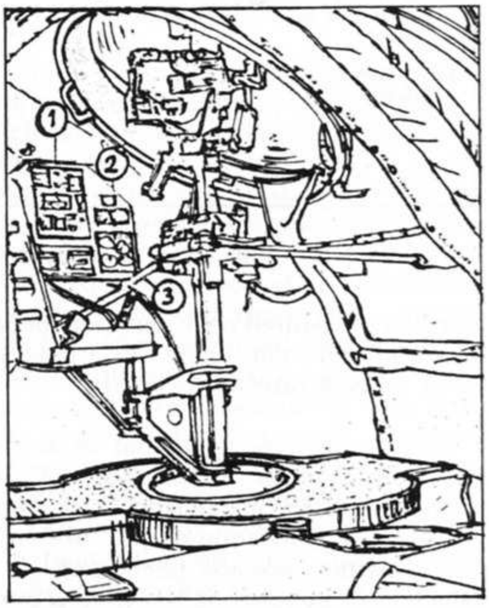

Figure 6: Upper aft stn.

1. Turret control.
2. Interphone control.
3. Oxygen controls.

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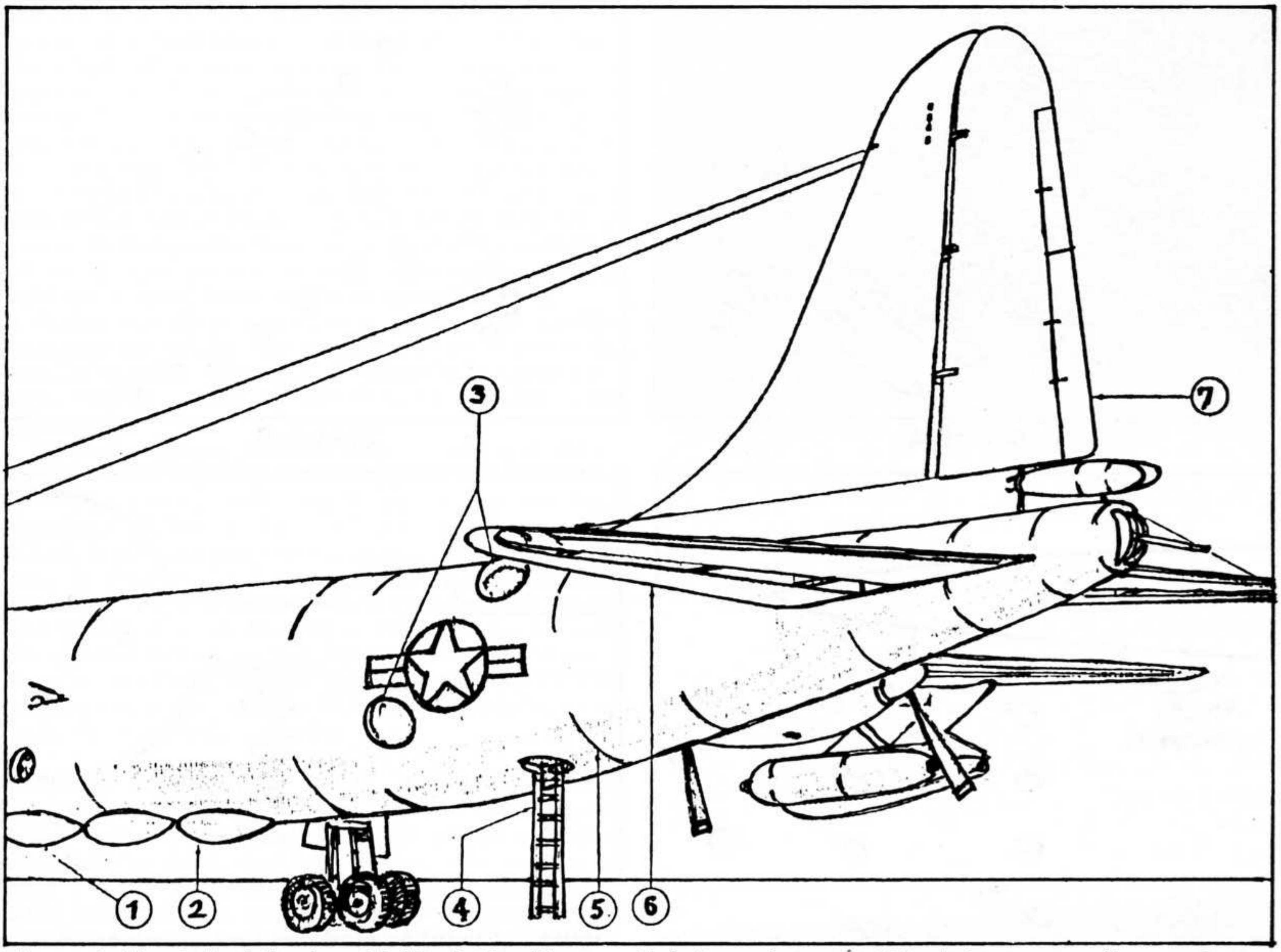


Figure 4: The tail of the formidable B-36 with a partial view of some of the jet-prop nacelles, and two of the pure-jet pods. See key below:—

1 & 2. Radar pods. 3. Observation blister. 4. Access hatch. 5. Rear fuselage bulkhead. 6. Elevators. 7. Rudder trim tabs.

get closer. I reported this to the San Angelo Radio and the operator observed this incident from the ground.''

The third drawing (C) was accompanied by this statement: ''I observed (left) at 12 o'clock. They were in a vertical line. As we came closer the spacing between the spots became uneven and gradually left a vertical line.''

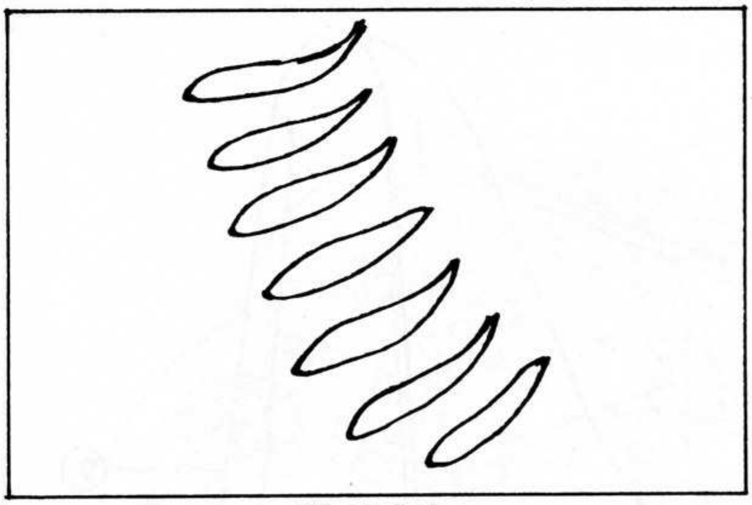
The written comments accompanying the bottom drawing (D) included: ''We were flying along when over the interphone came the question what was that in front of us. . . I was flying right scanner and couldn't see anything. The left scanner gave a report of what he saw, I left my position and looked through the left blister and saw four gleaming balls in a straight line. The wing stopped me from seeing more of them.''

One of the crewmen who did not make a sketch took six 35 mm photographs of the phenomenon. While it is not possible to be sure which crewman this was, the author believes it was probably either the navigator filming through the bubble (known as the ''astrodome'') which was located at the top of the forward canopy labelled (2) in Figure 2 or the photo-navigator who occupied one of the two seats located at the nose end of the aircraft (see seat number 14 in Figure 1). Good forward, downward, and sidewise visibility was afforded to the crew members in the nose of the aircraft by the multi-pane windows filling the entire bottom-half of the aircraft's nose.

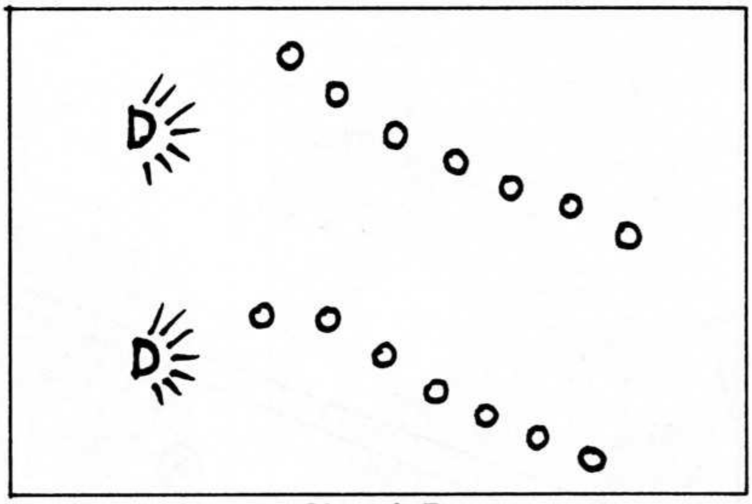
The written comments made by the crewman who took this photograph included the following ''. . .seven bright objects were observed in the west in a vertical formation. There appeared to be no apparent movement for the first 15 minutes, then they appeared to be sending off vapour trails in a swirling motion, different from any vapour trails I've observed from high flying aircraft. After the vapour trails drifted off no objects were in sight.''

Three more sets of comments remain. The sighting location for two of them is not known for sure and they will only be referred to by the arbitrary number that is used in Table 1 for purposes of cross comparison.

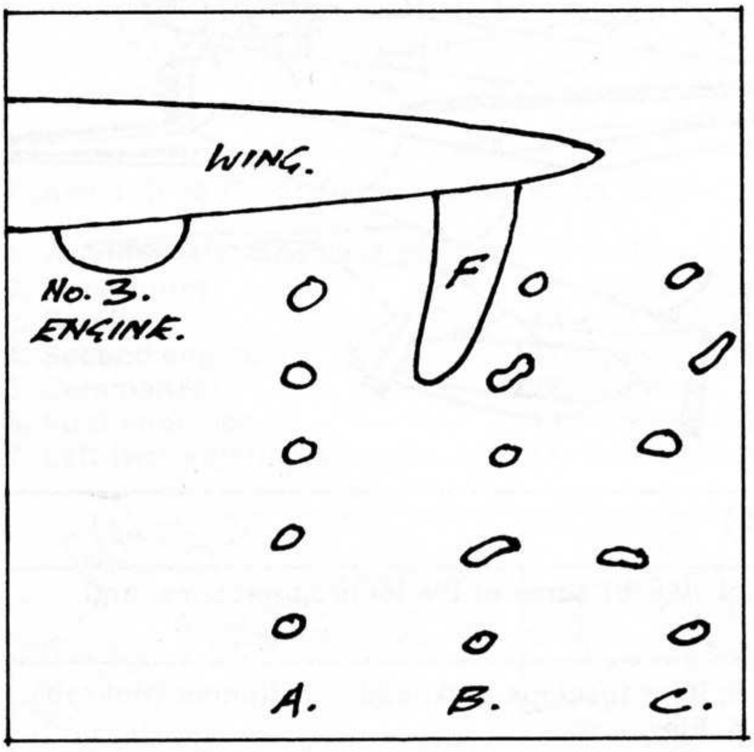
FIGURE 7 WILL BE FOUND ON PAGE 10



Sketch A



Sketch B



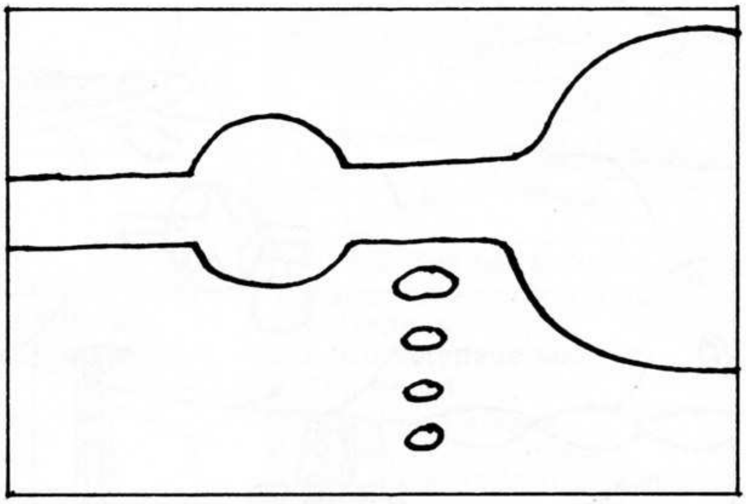


Figure 7: Sketches made by four crewmen of what they saw from their different positions in the giant B-36 aircraft.

Left: sketch C. Above: sketch D.

Written comment for witness number 1: ". . .a string of seven circular lights was observed ahead of and higher than our aircraft. . . Upon closer observations on my part they appeared to be very small circles such as a small jet plane might make if it were flying an extremely small circle. A better description might be of a white doughnut in the sky. There were seven such objects almost one above the other. . . As we got closer to the objects the circular part of the objects seemed larger and fuzzier as a vapour trail might appear after it begins to dissipate. They stayed in view, still appearing ahead of us, until dark. The extreme brightness of the objects upon first sighting them seemed to come from the sun which was setting. Later on the objects had the fuzzy, hazy appearance of a dissipating vapour trail."

Witness number 4: "The navigator called our attention to some objects in the air ahead of us. At first glance they looked like seven bright white lights in vertical formation. Looking at them through 6 power binoculars they appeared to be small white clouds, as the edges could be noticed to be cloud-like in nature. The objects continued to be visible until dark (about one hour) (*sic*) without changing very much in size or distance although we were flying almost directly toward them for this time."

Witness number 6 occupied the left forward blister and reported: "There were seven objects about 50 to 75 miles away about 10 degrees above flight line at 11 o'clock of the aircraft. They were very white and had the appearance of having phosphurous (*sic*) trails, and were in a vertical line. No movement was apparent and as we drew closer I figured they must be vapour trails and so I returned to my work."

Discussion of events

There are a number of features of this sighting that deserve further comment. These features will be treated according to temporal, spatial, and luminance characteristics of the phenomenon.

Temporal Events: The time of occurrence of the sighting was well documented as being 2005 CST (i.e., just before sunset) and the duration was claimed by

various crew members to be from 30 to 60 minutes. The project Blue Book files Record Card (form 10073) listed the length of observation to be 15-20 minutes and the explanation of the phenomenon to be "possibly a balloon." If this phenomenon was produced by a series of tethered polyethylene balloons they would very likely become visible due to the light from the setting sun (which set a relative bearing of (*) on May 19, 1952 at (*) local time ((*)Z). It is difficult to explain this phenomenon as one or more balloons, however, in light of the numerous comments from the eye witnesses about seeing a vapour trail closely associated with the invididual objects.

If the individual objects were made of a vaporous substance like smoke, one would expect the winds at this altitude to make them drift or otherwise dissipate from sight over the course of the 30 to 60 minutes of the sighting.

Since the sighting duration was so prolonged and no specific times are given in the original report on when each crew member saw them it may be that the shape variations shown in Figure 7 may simply represent relatively accurate representations of the aerial objects but seen at different times. Nevertheless, the objects must have either been located at a great distance from the aircraft (flying at a true heading of 301 deg at an indicated air speed of 189 knots) and stationary, or at some lesser distance and flying radially away from the aircraft, i.e., along a heading of 301 deg. The former possibility seems to be the more likely condition.

Spatial Events: All of the eye witnesses who commented on the apparent angular size of the objects said the objects were small. No more precise statement than this was given. The seven objects were seen not as point sources but as angularly extended sources. The point optical source has the property of increasing in apparent diameter very slowly with decreasing range so that one would not necessarily expect these objects to appear to enlarge over time (assuming the separation distance between the aircraft and the object was initially large and was decreasing). Three of the four sets of sketches given in Figure 7 indicate some definite shape to the objects. There appears to be a temporally related change in relative spacing of the seven objects as well as a change in their perceived shape, toward that of less symmetry. These eye witnesses' sketches were copied as accurately as possible for Figure 7. Thus, it may be noted that not only are some of the separate objects elongated but were oriented with their long axes tilted slightly right-end higher (than their left-end).

No explanation is given for why the four crew men who drew sketches of the objects drew such differently sized shapes. In view of the fact that so many witnesses said the objects were very small, it raises the possibility that drawing (A) in Figure 7 was made by the observer at crew station 4 who viewed the phenomena through 6 power binoculars.

Regarding the single 35 mm photograph that was included in this case file (reproduced here as Figure 8), the dark flat Earth surface can be seen at the very bottom of the photograph with the lighter atmospheric air glow seen arcing above the horizon (which is typical at sunsets as seen from high altitude). Interestingly, the three white images that are visible in this photograph appear near the upper edge of the airglow region and not against the darker (near space) background.

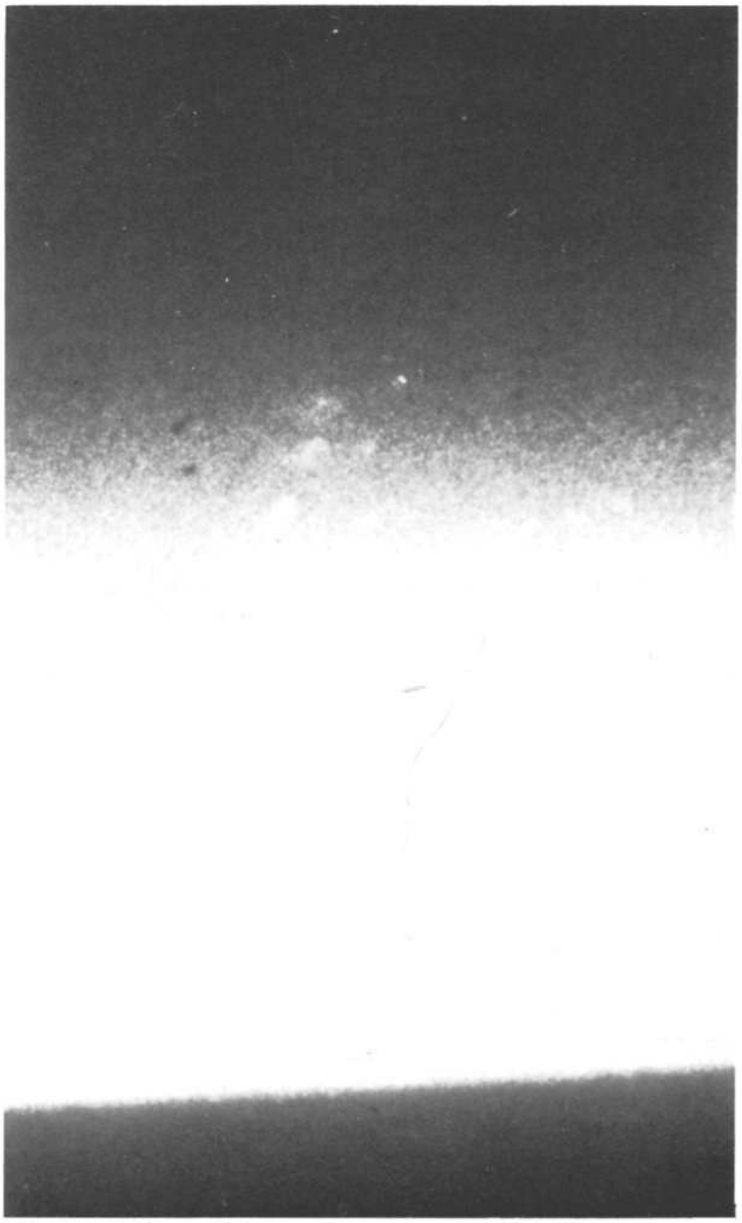


Figure 8: Detail from the crewman's 35 mm photo.

The approximate geographic locations of the aircraft at the start of this prolonged sighting is given as 30 deg 37 min N and 100 deg 47 min W or about eight miles WNW of Sonora, Texas. The squadron intelligence officer's report claimed that the aircraft's location at the end of the sighting was approximately 30 deg 53 min N and 101 deg 20 min W, which calculates to a linear distance of only 38 miles! If this sighting lasted even 30 minutes (a conservative estimate) and the aircraft travelled at a ground speed of as slow as 100 mph, it would have travelled at least 50 miles distance. It is more likely that the aircraft's ground speed was perhaps 200 mph for an elapsed distance of 100 miles after 30 minutes of flight or 200 miles for an hour of flight. And, even if there had been high head winds of say 100 mph coming from the 111 deg bearing so as to reduce the aircraft's ground speed to 100 mph the same winds aloft would be expected to sweep airborne balloons rapidly toward the aircraft's direction producing (perhaps) a per-

*[*Details not supplied by author* — ED]

ceptible increase in apparent size over the long duration of this sighting or at least an apparent motion of the objects across the field of view. Obviously, an error in either time and/or geographic position of the aircraft has found its way into this file.

Given the aircraft's starting position at Kelly AFB, San Antonio, Texas, and a constant heading of 301 deg, the terrain over which the aircraft flew at 18,000 feet altitude was flat, dry desert with numerous dry river beds and washes. Approximately straight ahead of the aircraft, some 85 miles, is the town of Midland, Texas. The U.S. Weather Bureau launched both pilot and rawin balloons from the Midland, Texas airport during the summer of 1952. Could there have been an unusual cluster balloon launched from their facility? The 27 years which have elapsed since this sighting make it extremely difficult to find out.

Luminance Events: As mentioned earlier, the period of the day during which this sighting took place very likely contributed to the conspicuousness of the seven "white" objects. As seen from 18,000 feet altitude the Earth's surface would be getting darker while the horizon sky would be much brighter due to the scattering of sunlight in the atmosphere. Neither the heading of the aircraft nor the relative bearing of the objects (from the aircraft) was supposed to have changed throughout the 30 to 60 minutes of the sighting. This suggests that the objects could possibly have been produced by intense ground lights refracted by a temperature inversion. Yet, since there were seven separate objects seen, the ground lights would have had to be in a fairly straight row, oriented almost directly along the flight path of the aircraft. It is difficult to explain the apparent drift of these objects relative to each other on the basis of atmospheric refraction, however.

That these bright objects were not some form of parhelia or mock suns is suggested by the facts that: (1) no colours were reported by any eye witness whereas parhelia are distinctly red on one side, then yellow, and then bluish white, depending upon the angular distance to the sun (Minaert, 1954, pg. 1967); (2) no witness reported seeing any scintillation of these bright objects as might be expected from seeing stars through the atmosphere, and (3) a mock sun phenomena would not produce as many individual images in this orientation as was reported here. It is unfortunate that the U.S. Air Force file contained no details on how the seven objects disappeared.

U.S. Air Force conclusion

The Air Intelligence Information Report on this sighting was approved by Captain William J. Quinn, Jr., Assistant Wing Intelligence officer, on June 20, 1952, over a month after the sighting took place. In his summarizing statement, Captain Quinn said: "The attached photographs prove the authenticity of the report as observed, and the only explanation of the objects that can be reached at this headquarters is the possibility that the white puffs may have been caused by exhaust from a vertically launched, multiple phase, rocket or guided missile. The proximity of the aircraft to the New Mexico testing sites does not rule out this possibility, but since the wind velocity at 18,000 feet was 35 knots, it seems unlikely that exhaust puffs would remain that long without dissipating."

General comments

It goes without saying that the U.S. Air Force simply could not find a reasonable explanation for this event and thus placed it in one of their "catch all" categories (i.e., "possibly a balloon") rather than call it "unidentified" which it seemed to be. Many other pilots have reported seeing vaporous or cloud-like phenomena either spatially isolated in the sky or associated with apparently solid objects.

Further research is needed on what kinds of multiple and apparently related physical phenomena can maintain spatial integrity in the upper region of the atmosphere over periods of half-an hour or more.

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THE KAIKOURA CONTROVERSY

Kevin R. Berry

While some cases in this round-up from news items are familiar to readers, it is considered that there are so many interesting and new glimpses of the events from different angles that our New Zealand contributor's article well merits inclusion.

KAIKOURA is a town in the South Island of New Zealand, about 100 miles north of Christchurch. During the months of December 1978 and January 1979, this town and the area round it were buzzing with UFO reports, some now known world-wide.

However, these were not the first reports that the area has had. The unidentified flying objects have been there for about three years, the residents say, and perhaps the Kaikoura and Clarence area (Clarence is about 40 miles north of Kaikoura) could be considered as a UFO "entry window."

Earlier sightings

During 1978, two people travelling by car through the Hundalee Hills to Kaikoura saw the now-famous object hovering over the hills. They were so busy watching it that their car almost ran off the road.

One of Clarence's 200 residents described an object he saw in December 1978. He first thought that it was a stationary satellite, but later realised that it wasn't. The UFO had three lights: red, orange, and green. Looking at it through binoculars only made the lights look bigger.

Another man in the same area described the object he saw during the same month as having a red light on one side and a green light on the other.

Farmer Bruce Appleby believes that the object may be responsible for the disappearance of scores of his sheep. (My personal opinion is that his belief is without foundation. The objects sighted there have always been at a distance, and apparently have never taken anyone else's animals.)

The first Argosy sighting

On Thursday morning, December 21, 1978, an *Argosy* left Blenheim bound for Christchurch, piloted by Captain John Randle. At 1.20 a.m. he radioed Wellington to report "several white lights," unusually bright, over the sea off the Kaikoura coast. Wellington already had them on radar, and said they were travelling about 2000 km/h (1250 mph). Captain Randle had another sighting at 4.06 a.m. when flying back to Auckland.

While the Control Tower was watching Randle's UFOs on the radar, they received another radio call. Captain Vernon Powell, the pilot of another *Argosy,* also Christchurch-bound, radioed at 3.28 a.m. to say that "something is coming towards us at a tremendous speed on our radar." It was leaving a trail on the radar screen, and travelled 15 miles in 5 seconds before veering off. If Powell's estimate of the speed was accurate, the object would have been going over 10,000 mph.

The object vanished off the radar screen, but appeared again, about 23 miles east of the aircraft, as a flashing white light. It paced the plane for 12 miles, tracked by Wellington radar. During that time it changed colour.

The Crockett Film

In the early morning hours of December 31, 1978, an Australian TV film crew aboard another *Argosy* looking for UFOs filmed objects around their aircraft. These UFOs were also tracked on radar at Wellington and Christchurch. The film, taken with a telescopic lens by David Crockett, shows a "main" object, coloured bright orange on top and rich red on bottom, about 100 feet in diameter. This was filmed on the return journey.

When the film was analysed in Australia, it was discovered that this object had a translucent dome. It had also done a giant loop in 1/20 of a second, undetected by

the human observers.* A smaller, white, space-shuttle-shaped object was also filmed on the first journey, as well as four smaller dots beside the main object.

The Captain of the *Argosy,* Bill Startup, and the First Officer, Bob Guard, said the object on film appeared a little different from what they had observed with the naked eye. However, the differences are only minor. Bob Guard describes them as ". . .a slightly different shape and colour from what I saw. To my eyes it had a far more orange tint than. . . we saw on television."

Unfortunately, Channel 0 in Melbourne, Australia, edited the film out of sequence, interjecting shots of the first object seen on the first flight with the larger object seen on the return trip. And a number of people (including the flight crew) were very critical of the editing, (quite rightly, I think).

The film prompted the Royal New Zealand Air Force to send an *Orion* patrol aircraft to the skies to search for unidentified flying objects in the Kaikoura/Clarence area. It searched the area from midnight to 5 a.m. on the night of January 2/3, 1979, without seeing anything unusual.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek said the Crockett film was probably the best ever taken of a UFO.

GuidoValentich, the father of the pilot who vanished over Bass Strait in October 1978,† believes his son was "picked up" by a UFO. He said that the film gave him hope for his son.

The Television One film

Three Television One reporters, Lloyd McFadden, Terry Olsen, and Frank Kazuakoukas (the filmer), were sent to the Clarence area to keep watch for the well-known object during the night of January 2/3, 1979, the same night that the Air Force *Orion* was overhead.

At 3.15 a.m. on January 3, the men saw a light rising over the treetops. It "hovered up to the left, then darted to the right again." They filmed all this with a telescopic lens, and estimated that the object, which was yellowish-chalky, was at an altitude of 10,000 feet. It had a reddish tinge when it first appeared, but this vanished when it stopped moving about. "It seemed to rotate on its axis, and give off a pulsating glow," they said. The object had a clearly defined central core ". . .which seemed to radiate out and form various patterns." These had looked like a star at first, and then like a folded umbrella. They also said that the object was about twice the size of the morning star.

At 4.20 a.m. a second object, yellowish in colour, appeared in the sky. "There was a sudden intensity of light at first, then it scudded off across the sky," they said.

When the sun rose both objects were still visible, and they continued filming. The second object eventually faded out, but the first seemed to rise, and was finally lost from sight.

Other sightings

There were many other sightings in the area, in other parts of the country, and all over the world. This was a "mini-wave." But the question of whether there were more UFOs about, or more sightings reported, or whether the increase was just an increase in the number of reports published, remains unanswered.

Three UFOs flew over Clarence on the morning of December 23, 1978.

The day before, several people in Wellington reported seeing UFOs.

A bright, spherical light was seen by people in Holland at 5 a.m. on the morning of December 27.

Back in New Zealand, a reporter for the "Press" in Christchurch photographed a green light over his back yard in early January.

Just two minutes after the TV1 reporters began filming a UFO at Clarence, 320 miles south, in Oamaru, police saw a light, which appeared five times during the night.

Westport residents saw an egg-shaped light at midnight on the night of January 4/5.

On January 11, eelers in Hamilton saw a UFO which frightened some nearby cattle and produced interference on their radio.

In late January, New Zealand's Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition saw an object pacing the plane they were in, as they passed over Kaikoura at 9 p.m. one night. It was tracked on the plane's radar and Wellington radar.

Again in Kaikoura, on January 6, three witnesses saw a vertical cigar-shaped object.

Nelson, New Plymouth, Invercargill, Auckland, Ashburton, Christchurch, Tauranga, and Karamea were among the other towns and cities in New Zealand which had reports of UFOs in the first three days of the new year.

Australia also had its share of flying saucers. On January 3, for example, a woman and her son in Queensland were chased by a banana-shaped light.

Other countries reported UFOs and even encounters of the third kind that week. Some were England, Italy, Israel, USA, and South Africa. Reports could be found in the newspapers almost every day.

The Explanations

As is usual after important UFO sightings, the "experts" move in and "explain" the sighting away ten or twenty times.

The MOD, among many others, said the films were of Venus. However, in the case of the Crockett film, Venus was not even in the sky when the observers started filming. The TV1 reporters said they could see Venus as well as the object they were filming.

Other Planets blamed were Mercury, Mars, and Jupiter, but I doubt that they were the culprits, as they do not look like the objects on film when seen with a telescope.

Balloons, Japanese squid boat lights, car lights reflecting off clouds were also blamed, but I for one have never seen a car, balloon, or squid boat chasing a plane at 10,000 mph as was reported by Captain Powell, or doing a giant loop in 1/20 of a second, as filmed by David Crockett.

Saucer-shaped clouds, warm dry air, light-reflecting sea foam rising upwards, and ball-lightning were other

[See cover photograph, also W. C. Chalkier's article "A Re-viewing of the Great Nocturnal Light" in FSR Vol. 26, No. 1 — EDITOR]

†*[See "The Missing Cessna and the UFO" by W. C. Chalker, in FSR Vol. 24, No. 5 — EDITOR]*

explanations, but as these phenomena could not last the duration of the sightings, I believe that they could not have been the cause of the UFOs.

Owls covered by luminous fungi, and mutton birds reflecting the squid boat lights. Well, well, well. So now owls and mutton birds travel at 10,000 mph! I think not.

Secret Russian or US missile? Why would Russia or the United States send their missiles to New Zealand to test-fly them, when they could use empty oceans or barren deserts in their own areas, where no-one would see them?

Were the films hoaxes? Again I think not, for the reliability of the witnesses is unquestionable. Pilots and TV crews would have a lot to lose (i.e., their jobs, probably) if they went about faking UFO films.

Meteors! This time too fast! Meteors move a lot faster than any of the UFOs did (including the one that moved at 10,000 mph, which lasted 5 seconds), and meteors only last a fraction of a second. The UFOs were about for hours, in some cases.

And lastly, one of the humorous explanations, an illuminated cabbage patch reflecting lights on to the clouds. Apparently the cabbages were moving at the speed of the plane, or is this explanation also invalid?

Sources

All the information recorded in this article, except my personal opinions of the explanations, has been taken from newspapers of the period: *The Press; the Christchurch Star; the Greymouth Evening Star;* the TV1 news and documentary on UFOs; radio reports; and a lecture at the Christchurch University.

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THE N.Z. FILM: A REPLY TO THE DEBUNKERS

Quentin Fogarty

Our contributor was a member of the TV crew which filmed the UFO on December 31, 1978.

IN JANUARY, 1979, the New Zealand Government dismissed the UFO sightings off the north-east coast of the country's South Island a few weeks earlier as "natural but unusual atmospheric phenomena."

The government investigation into the sightings was carried out by the Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR).

According to the press release at the time, the investigating officer reached his conclusions after interviewing all of the principal witnesses. In fact, he spoke to only three of the seven people directly involved in the December 31 sightings and he did not see, or study, the entire UFO footage obtained that morning from the flight deck of the *Argosy* aircraft.

I decided that the "findings" were rather nebulous, and I sought a more definite answer from the government. I was told by an official spokesman that I could safely assume that the light source we had filmed on the climb out of Christchurch (this accounts for most of the footage) was Venus and that, according to the spokesman, was the end of the matter. The government would be making no further comment.

The government sums up

However, contrary to that stated intention the government continued to make pronouncements throughout 1979 culminating in a new report which was released in December of that year. Entitled, "Unfamiliar Observations of Lights in the Night Sky," it covers not only the sightings of December 21 and 31, 1978, but also many other reports of strange lights in the New Zealand sky from December 20, 1978 to January 10, 1979. The report was prepared by Bill Ireland of the Physics and Engineering Laboratory of the DSIR and suggests that the lights seen during the three-week period were "generally unusual views of either terrestrial sources, such as lighthouses, navigation beacons and city lights, or of the planets Venus and Jupiter, seen through an unusually clear atmosphere." The sighting from the *Argosy* as we climbed out of Christchurch was, according to Ireland, "most likely a squid boat seen under quite normal viewing conditions." The reader should bear in mind that Ireland's "fishing boat" hypothesis differs markedly from the original theory that we had filmed Venus. Maybe someone in the RNZAF or the DSIR checked and discovered that Venus did not rise until after we had completed filming.

I should point out that Dr. Bruce Maccabee, the optical physicist and NICAP consultant who investigated our case, examined the possibility that we had filmed a brightly-lit fishing boat, but he found that the facts of the case did not support that hypothesis. Also, as Maccabee notes, one wonders whether Captain Bill Startup (the *Argosy* pilot) could fly over a fishing boat without realising what it was. After all, he was a pilot of more than 20 years' experience, and he had previously joined other pilots in tracking foreign boats suspected of fishing within New Zealand's fishing zone. But, more on that later.

Radar/visual case on December 21, 1978

Ireland's report is one of supposition, suggestion and guess-work. It also contains some glaring errors and I can only hope that these were not made deliberately. For example, when Ireland is dealing with the radar-visual sighting involving Captain Vern Powell on the morning of December 21, he makes this comment: "About the time of this sighting of a light from the aircraft, the Wellington Radar was also picking up a return which apparently tracked and kept pace with the aircraft for about 19 km. The aircrew did *not** identify the light to be coming from the position of the 'object' showing on the Wellington Radar." That statement is at complete variance with the facts. When I interviewed Captain Powell nine days after his sighting he told me that Wellington Radar had directed him to the position of the target showing on their scope. The following is a verbatim transcript of part of that interview:—

"We were in contact with Wellington radar. . .they asked us to identify certain returns that they had on their screens, and so they asked us when we were free, and had time to spare, to identify what they had on their screens. . .and to the right of us they had about five returns at about 12 miles, so we looked out that way and there was nothing there at all. It was clear* sky but we couldn't see anything. We put our radar on and we picked up a boat return a little bit to the front of us, to the right, and on the water we could see a light and so we confirmed that as a boat. . .and the same again, another one slightly more to the left of that, virtually straight ahead of us, which we also had on our radar (which is weather radar, but we were using it for tracking purposes), and that was confirmed as a boat. And then he said he had a strong return to our port about nine o'clock, directly on our left-hand side and both the first officer, Ian Pirie, and myself looked out and Ian first of all saw it and he said 'goodness, look at that,' or words to that effect, and there was a massive bright light slightly ahead of our port wing out to the left of us. . . we couldn't really see how far away it was from us, but it was out to the left of us."

A little later into the interview I asked Powell to tell me about the incident when the object followed the plane down the coast. His reply "Yes, radar told us this. We

*Q. Fogarty's emphasis

levelled out at 10,000 feet and looked out and it was still there and I said it was in the same place to radar, which it shouldn't have been, I thought, if it was something stationary because they said they had had something that was hovering in that area and then they told us that it had been following us for a period of time; it was tracking us.''

Selecting the information which suits the purpose

I think you will agree that the above transcript gives complete lie to ''facts'' as presented by Mr. Ireland. As further evidence of the authenticity of this remarkable radar-visual incident let me refer to the log kept by the radar operators at the Wellington Air Traffic Control Centre. Mr. Ireland refers to this log throughout his report, however he fails to mention the following relevant entry for the morning of December 21, 1978: ''Time, 0328 . Subject, More UFOs!: SAF BM-CH (*Argosy* flight, Blenheim to Christchurch)[1] saw a bright red light definitely airborne 2-3000 ft higher than the A/C (aircraft)[1]. SRE (Wellington Radar)[1] also shows an echo to the east of the *Argosy* by 23. This target was seen *both*[2] visually by the A/C and on SRE to keep pace with the aircraft southbound for 12 miles.''[3]

Ireland also fails to mention that the target showing on the Wellington scope, and also observed visually by the aircrew, was the same target that had earlier been tracked for 30 nautical miles, at a speed of 120 knots, by the Wellington operators, before coming to a halt and remaining in a stationary position for about three-quarters of an hour. This verbatim transcript of part of the actual radio messages between Wellington Radar and the *Argosy* that morning does, I believe, further establish the credibility of those involved in the December 21 sightings while at the same time showing how officialdom is careful to select only that information which suits its purpose:—

Radar: ''Ten o'clock to you, range 30 miles, is a large target. This one tracked down from Wellington. . .we saw it first of all 30 miles out from Wellington. . .it tracked down to 60 miles and has remained stationary for about three-quarters of an hour and has now moved about 20 miles to the west.''

Argosy: ''We have a bright red glowing light out to our 10 o'clock position. . .hard to say what range it is, but it's definitely airborne.''

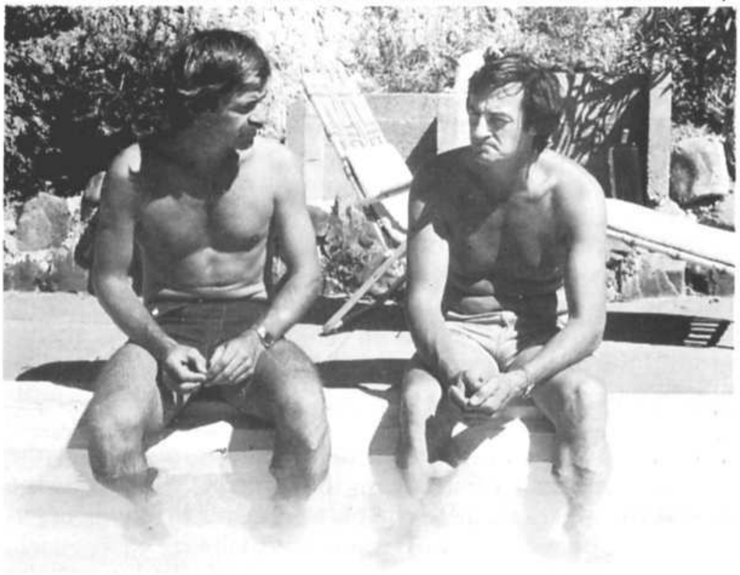

Photo courtesy Dominion & Sunday Times, N.Z.

Cooling off. Quentin Fogarty (left) and Dave Crockett.

Which brings us to Ireland's theory for the object seen by Vern Powell and Ian Pirie outside their port window. . .VENUS. Maybe that explains why Ireland took care not to mention the information I have provided here. After all, he would have a devil of a job trying to make his Venus theory stick if he took into account the object's extraordinary manoeuvres on the radar scope. Ireland also fails to mention the other highlight of the December 21 sightings, namely the incident as Powell's *Argosy* approached Christchurch Airport. The crew picked up a fast-moving object on their own radar which Powell later estimated was travelling about 10,000 miles per hour. The target came straight towards the aircraft before suddenly veering off the radar screen. At the same time, the crew saw a bright flashing light. As I have said, Ireland failed to refer to this incident, and I can only assume he did so fail because he was unable to explain it away in a conventional manner.

The radar/visual case, with film, of December 31, 1978

Mr. Ireland's ''most likely explanations'' for the events of December 31 are also suspect from both a scientific and a factual point of view. Perhaps this stems from the fact that he used newspaper reports for much of his information, and I can vouch that many of these contained inaccuracies. Also, he spoke to only some of the witnesses and, as Dr. Bruce Maccabee points out, one would expect that for this type of investigation he would have spent more time talking to the main participants.

City lights. . .?

Ireland claims the lights of Christchurch cannot be ruled out as a source of the lights reported on the downward leg. However, Maccabee says the available information indicates otherwise. For instance the sighting line of the first set of lights continually pointed in the direction of Kaikoura as the plane travelled down the coast. Also, the lights appeared to light up the foreshore and were much brighter than the lights of Kaikoura. As Maccabee says, the inverse square law and atmospheric extinction effects on light intensity make the Christchurch lights hypothesis unreasonable, and he points out that when the lights were first seen, Kaikoura was about 85 kilometres away and Christchurch about 240 kilometres from the plane. The inverse square law, he says, would make the lights of Christchurch appear about eight times dimmer than comparable Kaikoura lights. Also, Ireland's explanation fails to account for the three blue-white objects filmed by Crockett soon after the pulsating lights were first seen. Maccabee points out that the first of these lights is definitely at the right side of the aircraft because the image on the film is seen to slide rapidly to the right of

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[1] Explanations by author (Q. Fogarty).
[2] Q. Fogarty's emphasis.
[3] All 'miles' are nautical miles.

the screen and several seconds later the cockpit is seen to slide onto the screen from the left. The other two lights were filmed with no apparent reference to the inside of the plane. Maccabee has analysed two frames from that first section of film and he says the focused image is quite bright, indicating good exposure of the film. He says that the required intensity of a light at Christchurch which could produce such an exposure would be about 8,000 million candelas, a value perhaps comparable to the whole of Christchurch taken as one source. Maccabee concludes: "Thus it appears that both the visual descriptions and photographic evidence are inconsistent with the hypothesis that the 'UFO' lights were actually lights from Christchurch."

Lighthouse lights. . .?

Another significant event on the downward leg was the flashing light observed off the right wing tip. On my taped commentary I referred to the light as follows: "It's been following us for quite a while. It's about four miles away and it looks like a very faint star but then it emits a very bright white and green light." Ireland argues that this light may have been the Point Keen lighthouse at the easternmost tip of the Kaikoura Peninsula. He says that if this series of sightings is to be ascribed to a UFO, then ". . .the absence of the light from Point Keen and Kaikoura for over six minutes must be agreed to by the witnesses." According to Maccabee, the co-pilot, Bob Guard, has already stated that he could not see the Kaikoura town lights during this particular sighting. Since Ireland's report was released Captain Bill Startup and First Officer Guard have tested his lighthouse hypothesis during a similar flight. They say that in spite of careful observation, only about two flashes were seen that could be attributed to the Point Keen light. These observations were made during trips north and south along the same flight path. Bob Guard has also stated that the Point Keen light was not what he saw on December 31, 1978. Finally, the light we saw that morning was both green and white and was observed for between two to four minutes. By Ireland's own admission, the Point Keen light flashes only white, not white and green, and comes on only twice every 15 seconds, the duration of each flash being two seconds.

Wellington harbour lights. . .?

Ireland suggests that the white, orange and red light (or lights) filmed towards the end of the journey could have been the lights at the entrance to Wellington Harbour and he makes special reference to the front harbour light because it is a ". . .quick flashing white light with an intensity of more than 2400 candelas in the direction of the aircraft." Incidentally, Maccabee points out that the front harbour light has a section radiating white light to the north with an intensity of 2400 cd., and a section radiating light to the south with an intensity of 7000 cd. Naturally, because the aircraft was south-west of the harbour, the radiation in that direction is of interest.

Ireland's suggested explanation for this particular incident fails on a number of counts. To start with, if the light was radiating according to the published specifications then the illuminated area never intercepted the path of the aircraft. Also, the light flashes only white and not red and orange as it appears on film. Maccabee says that in order to determine whether or not the light suggested by Ireland, or any light around Wellington, could have made the photographic images, it is necessary to make another brightness comparison. He says that at the time the film was taken, the aircraft was about 122 kilometres from Wellington. If the front harbour light was responsible for the images on the film then it would need to have been radiating an intensity 175,000 times greater than it is capable of doing. He says that even if the harbour light had been photographed from the closest approach of the aircraft before it turned on its final approach into Blenheim, it would have been necessary for the light to have been radiating about nine million candelas.

Squid boat lights. . .?

Finally, I would like to touch briefly on Ireland's claim that the light source we filmed on the first part of the journey north was "most likely a squid boat seen under quite normal viewing conditions." In a letter to me on January 4, 1980, Maccabee states: "New and re-evaluated information tends to blow Ireland's squid boat out of the water. Of course, the fact that he was not able to find such a boat did not help him at all. . .but at least he was scientifically honest enough to state that fact even though it contradicts his hypothesis."

In his report, Ireland makes the following statement: "The squid boat records did not reveal that a boat was fishing near the position of this UFO sighting on the morning of 31 December. However this does not mean that no such boat could have been there, considering that if it had been fishing it could well have been doing so illegally. In such circumstances, it does not appear surprising that there is no record of any known boat fishing there at that time."

The reader should bear in mind that foreign fishing boats can fish quite legally so long as they stay outside the 12-mile limit and their owners report their positions at specified times. Ireland argues that his imaginary squid boat did not report its position because it was within the 12-mile limit. However, all the evidence, even that advanced by Ireland, puts the light source outside the legal limit. Therefore, there would be no reason for the boat not to report its position which leads to the inescapable conclusion that there was no boat there in the first place.

Ireland refers to the intensity of the light source as estimated by Maccabee, i.e. 260,000 candelas, which is comparable to the luminous intensity of a Japanese squid fishing boat, provided that all the 5000-watt bulbs strung around the deck are viewed as one big bulb. As Maccabee points out, the image on the film does not resolve individual bulbs. Another point is the fact that the 260,000 candelas calculation is based on the assumption that the light source was 10 miles from the aircraft, which was the closest the object came to the plane on radar. However, as Maccabee points out, that brightness estimate was conservative because the image used for the calculation, the "lazy eight" configuration, was filmed during the early part of the flight out of Christchurch when the object was closer to 20 miles from the aircraft on radar. If that was

the case, then the object had a far greater luminosity than the previously calculated value of 260,000 candelas, in fact something in the order of more than *two million candelas*.* Maccabee estimates that even at its closest distance, Ireland's hypothetical fishing boat would have had to have been radiating five times the brightness it was capable of. All of this information, as Maccabee so rightly states, tends to blow Ireland's fishing boat theory out of the water.

Conclusion

I believe there are two main reasons for the New Zealand Government preparing a second report on the sightings. To start with, it was obvious to most thinking people that the DSIR and the RNZAF rushed their first superficial report into print. Then Maccabee and his American colleagues presented their findings and made the results public. That left the New Zealand Government, and its DSIR scientists in particular, with even more egg over their faces. It was too late to admit they were wrong, so they set about plugging up their original leaky report. Finally, after working on it for nearly a year, they came up with "Unfamiliar Observations of Lights in the Night Sky."

To my knowledge, the New Zealand scientists still have not studied the entire UFO footage from the December 31 sightings, nor have they spoken to all the witnesses. Maybe when they finally get around to studying *all** the information, interviewing *all* the witnesses and analysing *all* the movie footage, their findings might be worthy of consideration. Until then, I don't believe they have any right to expect their guesswork to be taken seriously.

*Fogarty's emphasis.

FSR BOOKSHELF — 4

New UFO books reviewed by... *Janet & Colin Bord*

If you have ever wanted to hear the voices of famous names in ufology, you can now own an album of two 12-inch records on which some of them tell of their experiences. Introduced by Dr. J. Allen Hynek of the Center for UFO Studies who were involved in the production of the album, **UFO Encounters** tells the story of UFOs from the foo fighters of World War 2 to the abductions of the 1970s. Witnesses such as Kenneth Arnold, Father Gill and Bill Pecha are heard, and the abductees include Betty Hill, Travis Walton, Louise Smith and Herbert Schirmer. Among the investigators can be heard Dr. Jacques Vallée, Dr. David Saunders, Dr. Leo Sprinkle and Ted Phillips. For those who feel that authority adds authenticity, there are astronaut Gordon Cooper, Kurt Waldheim of the United Nations, and an (early?) recording of President Jimmy Carter saying that he sees no reason why government UFO information could not be released if in doing so it presented no security threat. There is a linking narration by Walt Peters, and the whole recording is polished and professional. Good use is made of the record sleeves, with a clear listing of contents and pictures of the speakers and their experiences, and there is a 4-page insert of photographs of UFOs and landing traces.

Our only criticism is of the background music which underlies every track containing witnesses' voices. It is obtrusive and distracting, and occasionally even obliterates a word from a witness. But perhaps this has been added to prevent 'pirates' infringing the copyright in the material.

These records would be a good way to introduce the scope of the subject to the enquiring and to the sceptical. There is nothing like a spoken first-hand account to bring home the impact and immediacy of a close encounter.

The album has been produced by Investigative Research Associates, Inc., 430 W. Diversey Pkwy., Suite W, Chicago, IL 60614, U.S.A., and can be obtained direct from them. The price of the album is $9.95, and it is also available as 8-track tapes and as cassette tapes, both priced at $11.95. Overseas purchasers should add postage: $1.26 for sea mail, or $3.34 for airmail.

Following the success of his early book *Our Mysterious Spaceship Moon* (1975), **Don Wilson** has written **Secrets of our Spaceship Moon** (Sphere paperback, £1.10) as a sequel. Here he covers much the same ground as in the first book, but in greater detail. His approach is designed to appear to the popular market and all the lunar anomalies he writes of are considered only insofar as they support the theory that the moon is an artificially constructed body. Other explanations which have been put forward for the anomalous facts are rarely, if ever, mentioned. Interesting at its own level, but should be read with caution. There is a bibliography and chapter source list, but no index or contents list, and no illustrations.

In **The Manna Machine** (Panther paperback, £1.25) two technologists, **George Sassoon** and **Rodney Dale,** say that they have made an ingenious new translation of some ancient Aramaic writings from the book the *Zohar* and have produced a closely argued thesis that the mystical Kabbalistic text was originally a description of a machine given to the Hebrews of the Exodus. This was known as 'The Ancient of Days' or 'The Ark of the Covenant' and was, say Sassoon and Dale, a portable photosynthesiser powered by a small nuclear reactor. It was designed to produce, for the Hebrews wandering in the desert, a steady supply of a nutritious substance which in the Bible is called Manna. *The Manna Machine* takes its place alongside Blumrich's *The Spaceships of Ezekiel* in suggesting that an advanced technology influenced the development of biblical peoples. A fascinating theme, most easily under-

stood by readers with a basic technical background. But it is unlikely to appear to any Kabbalists that may read it. The book contains many diagrams, a list of books consulted, and an index, and also the verse numbers of the original text are given with every quotation.

Mary Jones, an important figure in the Welsh religious revival of 1904-5, was accompanied in her travels by strange lights and other paranormal happenings. It is very doubtful whether the lights were UFOs in the sense of aerial craft, but there are numerous parallels between what happened in Wales at the beginning of the century and today's UFO phenomenon. In a 36-page booklet entitled **Stars, and Rumours of Stars,** authors **Kevin and Sue McClure** have gathered together reports and other material on the Welsh events, and the result makes intriguing and pertinent reading. (It is available, price £1 or $3 including postage, from Kevin McClure, 8 Scotland Road, Little Bowden, Market Harborough, Leics.)

In **The UFO Connection** (Jupiter Publishing, P.O. Box 5528, Postal Station F, Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 3M1, Canada; price $14.95 hardcover, or $8.50 quality softcover), **Arthur Bray,** Canadian UFO writer, brings to the subject a wider vision of humanity's inadequacies than do many other writers on the subject, when he questions the validity of mankind's present living and thinking patterns. In a number of essays Mr. Bray seeks to show that the UFO phenomenon may stem more from a parallel universe than an extra-terrestrial one. To reach this point he also has chapters on the UFO debate in the United Nations, Wilbert B. Smith and Project Magnet, and the secrecy with which the Canadian Government guards its files. The second half of the book contains various reports to governmental departments, some unremarkable sighting reports and a group of 'Saucer Sighting Analysis Charts.' Few of these appendices have much relevance to what has gone before, though some may be of interest to researchers who are compiling information on international government UFO secrecy. There are also chapter notes and an index.

The next book is a sign of the UFO times. **UFO Phenomena and the Behavioral Scientist,** edited by **Dr. Richard F. Haines** (Scarecrow Press, U.S.A., $18.50; available in U.K. from Bailey Bros & Swinfen Ltd, Warner House, Folkestone, Kent, at £12.95) concentrates not on the UFOs themselves but on the people who claim to see them. It contains twelve contributions by researchers in the fields of psychology and sociology who have turned their attention to the thorny thicket of UFO research. Several of the names will be unknown to most *FSR* readers, but among the contributors are Berthold Eric Schwarz and R. Leo Sprinkle. The latter's contribution is a long (130-page) account of his investigation of the Carl Higdon encounter in 1974, when a Wyoming elk hunter was taken away to another world by humanoids with straw-like hair. Sprinkle presents interview transcripts in full, together with medical and psychological reports on Higdon.

Titles of the other eleven chapters include "Social and Cultural Factors Influencing Beliefs about UFOs", "Psychiatric and Parapsychiatric Dimensions of UFOs", "Reconstruction of Witnesses' Experiences of Anomalous Phenomena" and "Possible Infrequent Geophysical Sources of Close UFO Encounters: Expected Physical and Behavioral-Biological Effects." As these titles indicate, this book does not make light reading, but it contains some stimulating data for those who are prepared to persevere with the sometimes dull text — it varies from chapter to chapter. Anyone who has followed the saga of Travis Walton is likely to be intrigued by Michael A. Persinger's re-evaluation of this case. According to Persinger, Walton may have been zapped by an electromagnetic column discharge and wandered around for several days experiencing vivid dreams before coming to his senses 12 miles away. As Persinger states of UFO events in general: 'The data at present indicate that close encounter UFO stimuli are probably natural, transient, electromagnetic phenomena correlated with certain geophysical conditions.' Far-fetched? Perhaps. But to some people, talk of visitors from outer space or other dimensions is also far-fetched.

This book emphasises that the UFO data we have available for study is, generally speaking, not of a high standard, and that all UFO researchers must be ultra-cautious when handling UFO data and questioning UFO witnesses. But also, we believe, scientific researchers should beware of peering too closely through their microscopes at UFO minutiae and thereby missing the wider manifestations of the phenomenon taking place all around them.

Investigation of UFO reports is far more complex than simply locating witnesses and asking them to describe what they saw. In another book bearing the name of **Dr. Richard F. Haines,** we learn how the serious investigator should approach this important task in a scientific manner. **Observing UFOs:** An Investigative Handbook (Nelson-Hall Publishers, 111 N. Canal St., Chicago, IL 60606, U.S.A., cloth edition $21.95, paperback edition $10.95, available direct from the publishers; sea mail postage to the U.K. is $3.50) is a thorough and somewhat complex work, but anyone who takes his role as UFO investigator seriously will want to read it. He/She will learn interview techniques, what to ask and what to look for, and since UFO research is of necessity based largely on investigators' reports, the importance of preparing high-quality reports cannot be overstressed. Until recently, the vital question of perception in relation to UFO sightings has been overlooked or ignored, but Dr. Haines makes good that omission with detailed information on all aspects of the seeing and interpretation of objects and lights in the sky. The book is illustrated with photographs, diagrams, tables and graphs, and has a full bibliography and index. If UFO investigators can achieve the high standards set by Dr. Haines, ufology cannot but be upgraded in the eyes of sceptical scientists.

Three books which we earlier reviewed in their hardback editions have now been made available in paperback: *The New Soviet Psychic Discoveries* by Henry Gris and William Dick (Sphere, £1.50), *The Philadelphia Experiment* by Charles Berlitz and William Moore (Granada, £1.25), and *The Andreasson Affair* by Raymond E. Fowler (Bantam/Corgi, 95p).

TORONTO ABDUCTION REPORT

Canadian witness observes an intriguing variety of UFOs, encounters the occupants of one of them and claims subsequent M.I.B. involvement.

Lawrence J. Fenwick and Joseph Muskat

The authors are Co-Directors of Canadian UFO Research Network (CUFORN) of Willowdale, Ontario.

THE third and fourth reported abductions of humans by UFO entities in Canada occurred on August 4, 1979. The people stated to have been abducted were a girl of 14 and a man of about 43 years of age. The girl is said to have been aboard for 15 minutes, the man for an unknown length of time.

The incidents were investigated by Canada's largest UFO investigation group, the Canadian UFO Research Network (CUFORN). The evidence included matted-down grass, residual radiation, physical effects on one abductee, a Man-in-black (MIB) visit, and an independent observer who saw the UFO moving to the spot where the girl's abduction reputedly took place. To this day, the independent observer, a woman, does not know that there was an abduction involved.

The first of a *series* of UFO sightings which culminated in the abductions happened in the eastern part of Toronto, Ontario, on Thursday night, August 2.

That same night, one hour later, similarly-shaped UFOs were reported in Northwestern Kansas and Southwestern Nebraska, USA, 1150 miles south west of Toronto. Articles about the sightings in the Norton, Kansas, *Telegram* and the McCook, Nebraska, *Gazette* were sent to CUFORN headquarters by Edmonton, Alberta, member John Musgrave. He sent them as part of his monthly UFO clipping service.

CUFORN policy

CUFORN, founded in December, 1977, is a group with 55 members in five countries. Its membership is restricted to persons with expertise in dozens of scientific fields. CUFORN's policy is to avoid contacting the media which distorts, ridicules, fabricates and exploits UFO events, especially in major cities. This leads to crank phone calls and harassment of UFO observers.

In order to avoid this, the names of three girls and one of their mothers have been changed in this article. The three girls are Sarah Hines, 14, Cathy R., 14, and Jackie B., 11. They and Jackie's mother filled out the appropriate CUFORN sighting report forms, CE2's and one CE3 form.

The UFO incidents

The incidents involved seven teenagers, 13 parents, and one young boy.

They saw six UFOs, two of them arrowhead in shape. At 9.50 p.m., August 2, 1979, Sarah saw something in the sky nearby and told her two girl friends to follow her to the field nearby which is owned by Ontario Hydro. Two lights were hovering low near high tension power lines. The two objects rose when they arrived, one heading south, the other north. From his house window, Cathy's father saw one of the objects at 9.50 p.m. He later refused to fill out a sighting report form. When the two objects had left, Cathy sighted two arrowhead-shaped objects which appeared to be moving backwards from the northwest at 9.52 p.m.

A minute later, Sarah and Jackie observed a cigar-shaped object. It was black with white lights around the periphery and a green light at one end. The cigar was following an arrowhead-shaped UFO at an estimated 500 feet elevation. The cigar emitted a sound like a generator operating at low power.

An oval-shaped object appeared at 9.55 p.m. It had a green haze around it, and had four curved legs longer than the body of the object. There was a dull red light on top, red lights along the bottom and yellow lights around the circumference. It appeared to hover over the senior public school roof, two blocks north west of Sarah's home. This object was 12-15 feet in diameter and about six feet in height, excluding the legs. Another girl, Jodi, saw the object over the roof. When she approached the wall of the school, she felt "paralyzed" and began to cry.

The seven teenagers on the school grounds were soon joined by their parents. The parents said they did not see the oval object, only the arrowhead and cigar objects. The teenagers said the crickets in the vicinity stopped chirping during the incident.

The oval object lifted off the roof about 30 feet, hovered again, and then disappeared from sight when its lights went out at 10.05 p.m. Immediately, the sound of the crickets was heard again.

Sarah normally sleeps four to five hours a night, but this night she slept 12 hours with no dreams.

On Friday the 3rd at 9.50 p.m., the same observers plus Cathy's mother, a friend Bill MacMillan, and Jackie's brother Ernie, went to the field which is adjacent and to the east of the school grounds. Again, the sounds of life in the field seemed to stop. No cars were seen or heard on the normally busy street, which led to Buttonville Airport, three miles to the north.

They saw an oval object the size of a football field at a 300 ft elevation. It was flat, dark and solid-appearing, with large checkered patterns and three large "fans" of 50 ft diameter beneath. The entire object turned over slowly, rose, and headed south very slowly.

At 10 p.m., Bill and Ernie observed two large arrowhead objects at about 500 ft elevation north of the field. The angle of elevation to the observers was 50

degrees. One object seemed to explode silently. The pieces separated as if a jigsaw puzzle were being taken apart. The object's total size was now doubled by the separation of the pieces. This object and the intact object were now separated by 200 ft.

Sarah had an urge to go alone to another field ¾ mile north east of the Hydro field. Sarah walked, as if in a trance, to the other field. There she saw four bright lights hovering at about 500 ft elevation at 10.10 p.m. Sarah returned home and again slept 12 hours with no recall of dreams.

At 10.30 p.m. that night, Cathy dialled the telephone operator and asked her whom to call to report a UFO sighting. The operator suggested she call the Ontario Provincial Police. She spoke to David Craig, an O.P.P. public relations officer. He called an acquaintance of his who knew Joe Muskat, CUFORN Co-Director and President. Muskat phoned Sarah on the 5th. That night he visited and interviewed Sarah and her mother Alice, after notifying Co-Director and Secretary Lawrence J. (Larry) Fenwick.

Events began once more at 9.50 p.m. on Saturday, August 4. The same teenagers, along with Jackie's father, went to the Hydro field. Jackie's mother, at this time, was walking a few blocks away and saw an arrowhead object heading north at about 20 m.p.h. about two feet above street level.

Just after her observation, the people in the field watched two hovering arrowhead objects for about two minutes. Then, at 500 ft elevation, the objects all headed East "like a flash".

Abduction

Also, at 9.50 p.m., Sarah felt compelled to walk away from her friends to the field north east of the Hydro field. All sounds of life seemed to stop. Sarah crossed the road to the field without looking out for cars. She said she had the feeling that there would be no cars and there were none. There usually is some traffic on the street even late at night since it is a main north-south street.

Upon reaching the field at 10.05 p.m., she saw an arrowhead object move off the street to the field and in front of her. It settled slowly to a height of two to three feet above the foot-high grass. She walked to within two feet of

1. The field where the alleged abduction took place.

2. Dome-shaped UFO said to have landed on roof at rear of these school buildings.

the object. Suddenly she saw four shadow-like figures emerge from the object and hover in a semi-circle two feet above the ground. The figures were four feet tall, football-shaped, one-and-a-half feet wide and less than an inch thick, like wafers.

She looked at them for one to two minutes and passed out. She recalled being on the UFO and observing the general area. She also saw a man in a blue suit walking a dog. She remembers waking up in the field 15 minutes later at 10.20 p.m., stretched out on the ground about 15 feet south of where the object had been.

Again, upon her return home, she slept 12 dreamless hours.

Muskat asked her why her face was orange-red. She said, "You won't believe this." He asked her if she had any other marks on her body. She said "Yes." She showed Muskat her right hand. One pin-prick mark was clearly visible on the inside of her index finger and a one-eighth inch diameter elongated red scrape mark with a pin prick inside it was on the base of the thumb. These marks healed in five days' time with no medical attention.

3. The dark area is matted-down grass where the arrowhead-shaped UFO landed.

Her mother said Sarah's eye pupils were dilated and that she had washed off some of the redness on her face the next morning. She had done this out of curiosity and fear.

By the morning of the 5th, the dilation was gone, her mother said.

Muskat asked Sarah "What was the thing you said I wouldn't believe?"

"I was on board a UFO," she replied.

Investigation

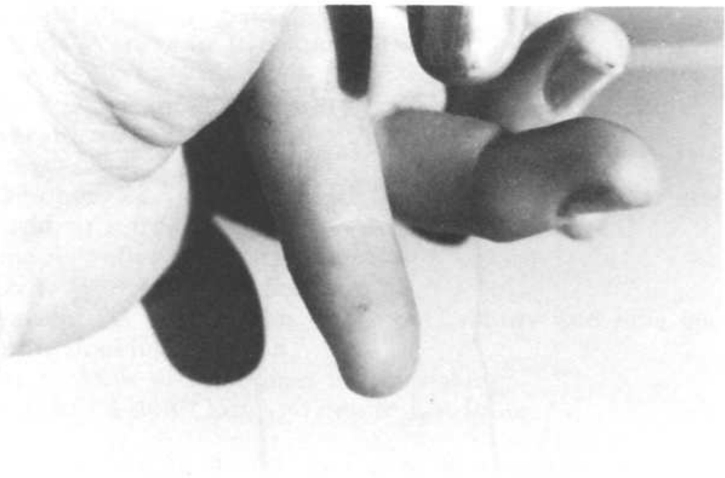
Muskat, Sarah and her brother Jay went to the site, where they saw a triangular area of depressed grass which had a grey pallor as if the chlorophyll had gone from it. The measurements that Muskat took there corresponded very closely to the description by Sarah. Muskat photographed her hand, the matted-down area, and called Larry Fenwick and Harry Tokarz.

All three went to Sarah's house to ask for further details. Following this they proceeded to the field. There, she showed them approximately where she had awakened. During the search for the exact location, Sarah noticed a nickel and a penny lying in the grass. She searched her pockets, telling them she had eleven cents the previous day. She only found a nickel in her pocket. This money was found at the location at which she had awoken, 15 ft from where the grass was matted down and dried out.

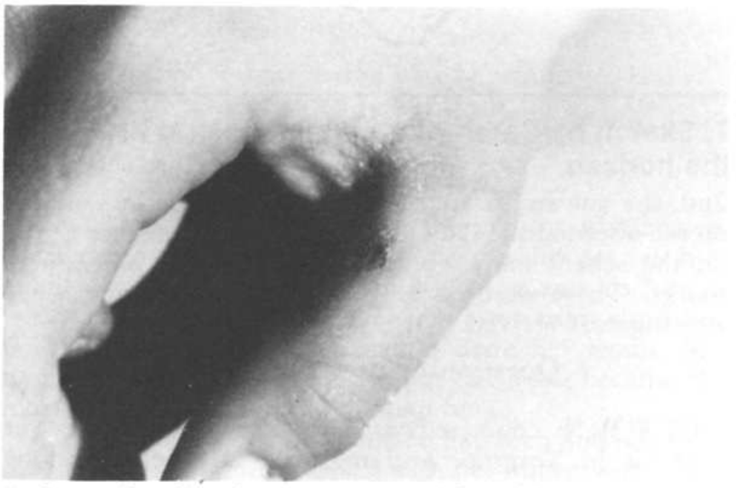
On August 7th, Claude Freeman, CUFORN member and pilot, was asked to get a Geiger counter to check for radiation. That night very heavy rain fell, preventing use of the Geiger counter. On the 8th, Freeman and Henning Jorgensen, CUFORN radar and electronics expert, took radiation readings, while Muskat obtained soil samples.

4. Claude Freeman using Geiger counter on matted grass.

The readings were 1.6 to 1.7 higher than the normal background radioactive scintillations. Geiger readings were taken in areas as far as five feet away from the depressed area. The readings ranged from 14 to 19 at that distance. Inside the depressed area, they ranged from 23 to 24 scintillations per minute.



5. Photograph of Sarah's finger taken on August 6th, two days after alleged abduction, shows pinprick where blood sample was said to have been taken by aliens.

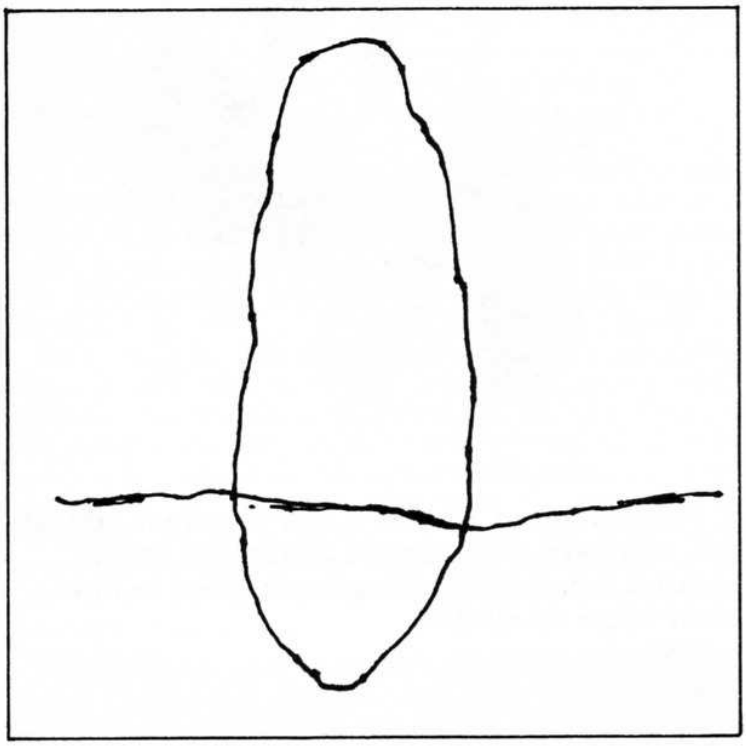


6. An enlarging lens was used for this photograph and shows barely visible scab, with pinprick within it, at base of Sarah's thumb. Photo taken two days after abduction.

Muskat interviewed Cathy on August 9th. Cathy described her observations of August 2nd. She said the arrowhead object had a red mist around it. It was silent and, inside the red mist, the surface appeared white and smooth. It hovered and moved up and down slowly. She said that at arm's length the object would have been the size of an automobile.

On all three nights, the weather was clear and warm. There were many stars in view and the moonlight ranged in intensity from dull to bright. There were a few fluffy white clouds on the night of August 2nd. Cathy said the arrowhead object came from the north-west on August 2nd. She said there were six objects in view that night. She also noted that the wind was almost non-existent, and was from the south-east. The edges of the arrowhead object appeared sharp. "The bottom looked like pipes on the bottom of a car."

Sarah said that on the sightings of the 2nd, she began to cry while she watched the oval object and could not believe what she was seeing. Cathy also said that on the



7. Sketch by Sarah of a crystalline creature, and the horizon.

2nd, she saw an "orange-red ball of fire." Cathy said that on the afternoon of the 4th some friends helped her get up on the school roof, where she saw oil and half-square marks. These were no longer visible a day later, when investigators arrived.

Questioning under hypnosis

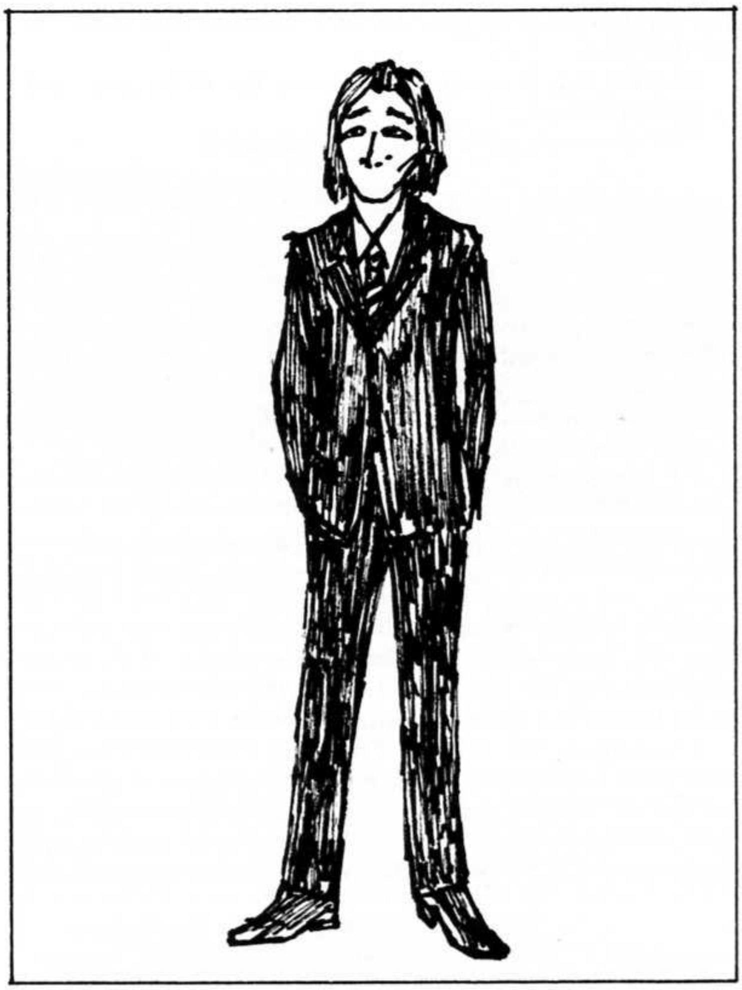
CUFORN contacted a doctor who specializes in hypnosis in Toronto, and regressive hypnosis sessions took place on October 10, 18 and 24, with Sarah's mother present. The doctor's name is omitted here as he does not want to be bombarded by phone calls from persons who wish to have regressive hypnosis. He prefers to be contacted by CUFORN.

The following is a summary of the tape-recorded regressive hypnosis sessions. For coherence, a few statements in the second session are included with those of the first session.

Oct. 10, 1979: Sarah said she was taken on foot through the UFO's wall. The interior was brightly and uniformly lit throughout, and sharper than regular lighting. Sarah detected the odour of chicken. Her hands went through everything she touched, except for an ordinary cat from Earth. She was told they had been "growing it" on board and it was to be released eventually. The creatures had not done any tests on the cat, which roamed freely in the craft.

She said there were seven shadowy creatures on the craft and that she could see right through them. They were long and oval, like large American-style footballs, and were four feet tall. They appeared crystalline. Each was of a different, but strange colour, and Sarah said they told her telepathically that they had taken her for tests to see what humans are made of.

They said they had been on Earth before and would return when she was 25. She felt she was on board for



8. Impression of the MIB, based on Sarah's sketch drawn on day after alleged meeting.

"what seemed like a year."
Doctor: "Did you stay here on Earth and just look at it from the air?"
Sarah: "Yes. I saw the whole world."
Dr.: "Did they take you to any other world?"
Sarah: "Well, they showed me this place. It's red and it's there, but it's not."
Dr.: "Was it another planet or star?"
Sarah: "Yes."
Dr.: "Do you remember what they did to you that made your skin become tanned, sort of like a sunburn?"
Sarah: The bright lights. They've got to stay on. They have to have light."
Dr.: "Why?"
Sarah: "To keep them alive."
Dr.: "Why did the bright lights only cause sort of a sunburn on your face and neck and not on your hands?"
Sarah: " 'Cause my hands were glowing."
Dr.: "Do you know why they were glowing?"
Sarah: "No."

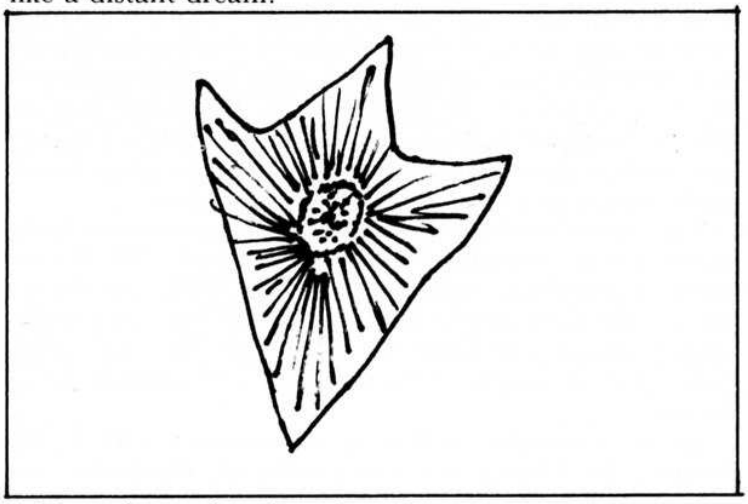
October 18, 1979 (Second Session): Sarah described the physical examination administered to her. They put an instrument in her mouth. A "light" was put on her thumb and index finger which painlessly burned holes in each of them. Blood was extracted from the holes. A machine was placed on her head "to find out what I know." She asked the creatures where they were from, but she said she did not know what their answer was.

Sarah saw an ordinary English-speaking human man on the craft. He said he was there for the same tests. He told her his first name only, but she recalled merely that it began with an 'A'. He was "from here," Sarah said, but not from her neighbourhood. The man said that he was taken aboard after she arrived on the craft. He stayed on board after she was let go. The creatures told her that they were going to let him go after they had released her. This man may or may not be a Canadian.

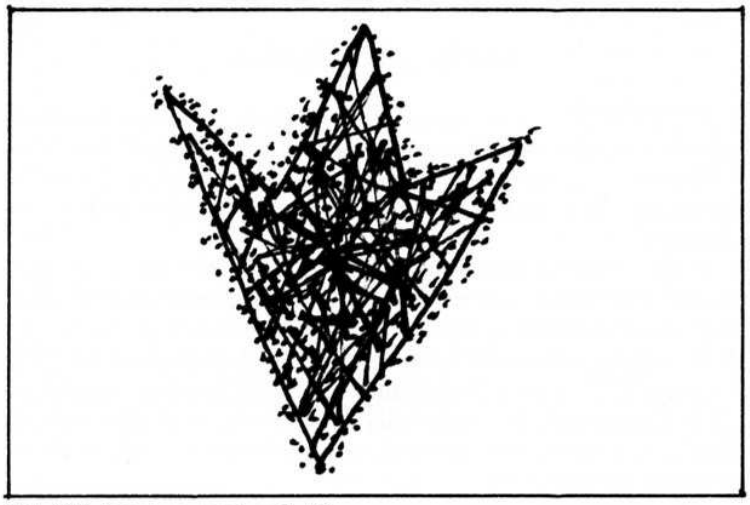
'A' told her he did not mind being on the UFO. He asked the creatures questions when Sarah was present, but Sarah could not recall them. 'A' had dark hair, which was "going a bit grey. He looked about 43." He was "not very tall" and wore casual clothing. He told Sarah he was a store owner.

Sarah said there were a lot of plants and computers on board, although most of the computers were in another room which she got a glimpse of.

Dr.: "How did you get off the UFO?"
Sarah: "They took me out the door. It wasn't a different colour door. It was just a little hole in the wall. I went through a little hole. And then they put me back to sleep and then I was on the ground."
Dr.: "Do you remember how they put you to sleep?"
Sarah: "Yes."
Dr.: "How?"
Sarah: "They told me to go to sleep."
Dr.: "Does it still seem very real to you or does it seem like a distant dream?"



9. Based on sketches by witnesses: top view of arrowhead UFO.



10. "It had a red mist".

Sarah: "I'd say 'real'."
Dr.: "Were your frightened at all?"
Sarah: "No."
Dr.: Did you feel they were good people, good beings?"
Sarah: "Yes."

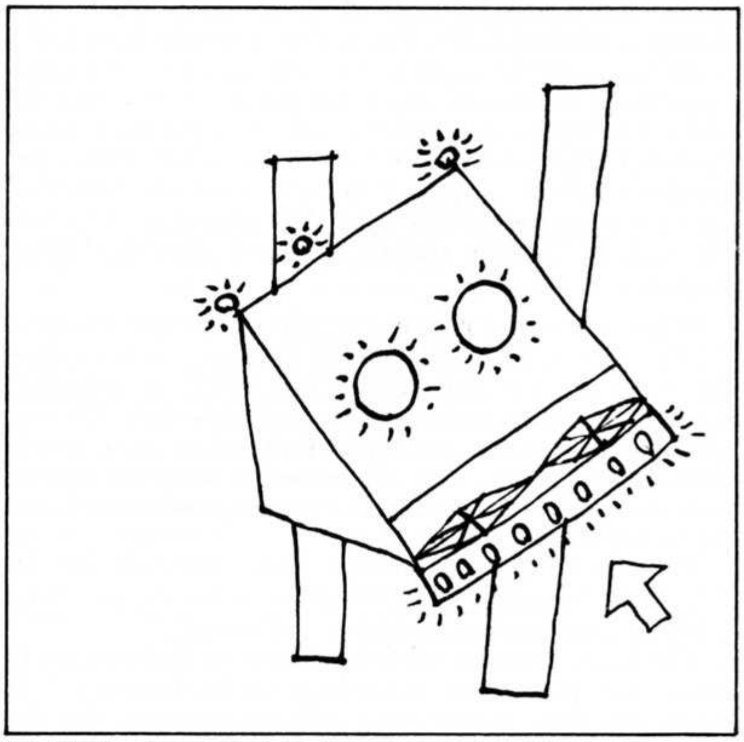
October 24, 1979 (Third Session — note that the incident referred to here occurred on October 11, 1979, one day after the first session):—
Dr.: "What are you seeing?"
Sarah: "A funny man. He's tall, skinny and he's got funny-looking shoes on."
Dr.: "How are the shoes funny-looking?"
Sarah: "I don't know. They're just funny."

Sarah told the doctor she was in the school courtyard at lunchtime along with her friends. The 'funny man' (MIB) had followed her to the courtyard from the cafeteria. The MIB came over to her and told her to move away from where her friends were. Then he started asking questions. She said he wanted desperately to find out who her friends were.

Dr.: "He gave you no reason why he wanted to know?"
Sarah: "I think he wanted to kill them."
Dr.: "Why? Did he think they were dangerous?"
Sarah: "Yes, I guess."

The Man in Black said he had a lot of partners everywhere. He warned her that if she did not tell him about everything on board the UFO, he and his friends would get after her. And if she went away from him while he was talking to her, he would scare her again. She thought about calling for help, but could not because the man's "mind was stronger" than hers.

Sarah told him exactly what she had seen and heard on the UFO. He seemed pleased with her information, only showing surprise when she mentioned the computers. He said he knew there was a man on the UFO. He told her



11. Side view of object.

that he had spoken to the human man since that time.

Dr.: "How did your conversation end?"
Sarah: "He just went."
Dr.: "You mean just walked away?"
Sarah: "No. He just disappeared."
Dr.: "Right in front of you?"
Sarah: "Yes."
Dr.: "Do you think he was human?"
Sarah: "No."

Sarah had told Muskat about the Man in Black on October 12. She said he stood six feet tall and looked like a dead person. He had a dull grey-toned face, slanted eyes and wore a black suit. Sarah could not remember the shape of the lips, but recalled that his grin was sinister. He had a very pointed nose and long fingernails on tapering fingers. His feet were pointing outwards at 90 degrees. His shoes had 3-4 inch heels.

In a summary of the sessions, the doctor noted that Sarah had been taken to a psychiatrist several months before her experience as a result of school problems, the strains of adolescent adjustment and sibling rivalry. He said she had a vivid imagination and had claimed to have seen some bizarre-looking ghosts. She had a very strong interest in the occult for the past few years, but, according to her mother, not much interest in UFOs. She had not read books or magazines on the UFO subject.

The doctor said the UFO incidents began on July 23, whereas the 3-night sequence of sightings started on August 2. He mentioned that Sarah "claimed" to have seen some UFOs on that night and the two succeeding evenings. He used the word "claimed," although he admitted that he did not investigate the sightings by other people in the area at the time.

The doctor commented that Sarah was remarkably nonchalant about the entire experience both before and after the hypnosis. This was her attitude towards her father's death, he added. Her nonchalance concerning his demise was understandable due to a reason which must remain confidential. Her casual attitude towards the UFO incidents is partly explained by the absence of serious side-effects on her. (An important point to note is that she told CUFORN's investigators that the experience inside the UFO was moderately pleasant.) He said the Hines girl seemed candidly surprised to hear what she had said under hypnosis when the tapes were played back to her. He said her casual attitude returned after her initial surprise.

What he does not know is that, from the moment CUFORN was in touch with her and up to a week after the hypnosis was complete, CUFORN's investigators repeatedly told her to be calm about the incident. She was told that abductions are not as unusual as most people think, and that any side effects on her would disappear very shortly. In other words, the investigators conditioned her to a casual attitude.

This attitude conditioning was referred to by CUFORN member John Musgrave in his paper, "The UFO Investigator as Counsellor and Healer."[1]

The hypnotherapist said that "subjects do not have to relate the truth while questioned under hypnosis." If Sarah was lying, the doctor would not have said that she experienced *genuine* surprise at hearing a playback of the tapes of the hypnotic sessions. Others with years of experience in the UFO field have stated that subjects cannot lie under deep hypnosis. These include Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, University of Wyoming, and Dr. James A. Harder.

Dr. Alvin Lawson, in "What Can We Learn from Hypnosis of Imaginary Abductees?"[2] stated that it is possible to lie under deep hypnosis *only* when subjects are deliberately told to imagine an event and are fed leading questions and outright suggestions.

After the first session, CUFORN's Larry Fenwick asked the doctor if he would monitor Sarah's bodily direct current electrical field in subsequent sessions. This technique was suggested by Dr. Harold A. Cahn, a clinical hypnotist, in an article, "Use of Hypnosis To Discriminate 'True' and 'False' UFO Experiences."[3] Cahn said when a subject is faking there is either "no great DC potential change (no trance) or whatever verbal account they present is obviously derivative." The doctor declined Fenwick's suggestion, saying that the device is unreliable, despite the fact that he has never used the instrument.

The hypnotist said that the sessions should stop because of the death of Sarah's father and her recent depressed state. However, the threat by the Man in Black at the school may have been his real reason for discontinuing the hypnotic regression.

Possibly, deeper hypnosis could elicit much information from Sarah. Although they are omitted in this article, five times during the hypnosis she said "I don't remember," indicating that mental blocks may have been implanted in her subconscious by the alien entities. It is ironic that the doctor stated that he hoped his summary "will be of use to you and your colleagues in attempting to get a better understanding of the UFO phenomena" *(sic)*.

The doctor's written summary made no reference to the taped session describing the Man in Black. He did not mention that Sarah saw a cat inside the UFO. He did not refer to the photographs Muskat showed him of the marks on her thumb and finger or to the fact that her mother noted that the pupils of Sarah's eyes were dilated for 12 hours.

In the summary and in a conversation with Harry Tokarz, Joe Muskat and Larry Fenwick, the doctor said that Sarah told him under hypnosis that she heard buzzing and beeping sounds when she was aboard the UFO. Her account of this was not on the tapes.

Further investigation

CUFORN's Joe Muskat arranged for soil analysis which was done on August 17, at the Radiation Protection Laboratory, Special Studies and Services Branch, Ministry of Labour, at Ontario government offices in Toronto.

ROI readout time was 2000 seconds for gross counts inside the area where the depressed grass was found. Naturally occurring Radon daughters ranged from 123 to 178, with a naturally occurring annihilation peak of 256. Cesium 137, a long lined fallout nuclide reached a peak of 331. Potassium 40, naturally occurring, was also noted. Radiation counts for the soil ranged from 3 to 83, with an average count of 44.

The counts for the background or normal soil outside

the site ranged from 1 to 23, averaging out to 6.473. Thus, the affected soil was more than *six times* as high in radiation as the soil outside the site, even after a heavy rainstorm.

In the light of the doctor's lack of involvement with this and other facets of the investigation, it is not surprising to CUFORN that he made the following statement: "I do not believe that any conclusive judgement can be made at this time regarding the validity of her account."

In contrast and in conclusion, CUFORN judges that this was a genuine double abduction incident.

References

1. See *Proceedings of the 1976 CUFOS Conference,* pp. 198-200.
2. See *1977 MUFON UFO Symposium Proceedings,* pp. 107-131.
3. See *The APRO Bulletin,* March 1979, pp. 4-5.

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

A suggestion

Dear Mr. Bowen, — I am sure all your readers will want to say "Bravo" and "Thank you" on the completion of 25 years of the *Review!* It has been an heroic achievement which has made a unique contribution, if I may say so, to our planetary life in this century, and this I think is being realised by an increasing number of people throughout the world. It is 30 years since the saucer phenomenon first swam into my ken, and during that time the 'FSR' has been my unfailing companion, all 147 issues!

Reading your splendid Editorial on Aimé Michel, and listing his remarkable contributions over the years, would you ever think of publishing these in a special issue similar to your 1966 issue *The Humanoids?* I believe there would be a widespread welcome for this, and it would be a further aid in our ceaseless investigatory quest!

Ever yours sincerely,
[Rev.] Robert A. Nelson
49 Highfield Park,
Dundrum,
Dublin 14,
Republic of Ireland.
May 24 1980

[The Rev'd Nelson's idea is a reasonable one which had some consideration even before M. Michel "retired." The idea was shelved because it was felt we should endeavour to get our publishing schedule up to date before we attempted any more special issues. That restriction still remains, but if, some time in the future, it is felt there would be sufficient demand for such an issue the project would be given consideration — EDITOR]

P. Moore and "The Sky at Night"

Dear Mr. Bowen, — Appalled by the erroneous statements made by Mr. Moore in this programme in December 1979 — such as ". . .funny how there are no 'foo fighters' (UFOs following planes) seen today," or "radar sightings are flights of duck, clouds of aphids and (an old friend) temperature inversions" and so on — may I mention that I am having a continuing correspondence with Mr. Moore via the programme's producer Ms Patricia Wood.

Your correspondent Denise Langman, and thousands of viewers who watched this programme, will be amazed to learn of the format on which it was based.

Moore was supposed to show that he believes in UFOs but thinks that they are not extraterrestrial. Michael Bentine was to show that ET vehicles may exist.

How well this programme succeeded in conveying the ideas of the producer is apparent from the reaction of Denise Langman's workpersons.

From my correspondence, it appears Mr. Moore was not particularly well informed on the cases that I quoted to refute his mis-statements — most of all those concerning the Tungus 'Meteor' where he has, apparently, done little research.

Yours sincerely,
D. S. Allan MA,
66 Kelburne Road,
Oxford OX4 3SH.
May 21, 1980.

More on P. Moore

Dear Sir, — Your reader Denise Langman really should have watched the "Sky at Night" programme instead of relying on the opinion of her associates at work. It certainly was not a scientific study of the UFO phenomenon, but neither was it a debunking exercise either.

Michael Bentine is a believer and Patrick Moore a doubter (but not necessarily a disbeliever). In fact Mr. Moore admitted that one case had impressed him. . . "The witness definitely saw something very strange."

I found the whole thing entertaining and interesting. The little "Martian" who appeared outside Moore's house at the end of the programme was amusing and could not cause offence except to those who expected too much from this type of presentation. (Patrick disappeared down a black hole in the last "Sky at Night" so he is liable to have a bit of fun at his own expense too!)

Moore's statement that in 1957 he sent a hoax UFO sighting to his local paper to test public reaction was a real eye opener. Twenty-two people confirmed the sighting! This may well indicate that a lot of people do see things that just aren't there.

Yours faithfully,
P. Dunn,
41 Bournemouth Road,
Folkestone,
Kent CT19 5BA
May 22, 1980.

The importance of the contactee

Dear Sir, — I make no apology for stating the obvious, but having read the quite fascinating points of view expressed in the latest issue (Vol. 25, No. 6) of FSR's "letters to the editor," I do feel that we are in some danger of forgetting that, as yet, and until science proves otherwise, the focal point of the whole UFO conundrum is still the Creditability Factor — that is, the evidence given to incredible tales told by seemingly creditable witnesses.

Indeed, I am motivated to write this letter by the fact that I recently received a quite impromptu visit from a psychiatrist who was holidaying in Pembrokeshire, and who wished to dicuss UFOs with me. We had a most interesting talk, but, as with so many I have experienced in the past, it was prefaced by the statement that though his knowledge of ufology was not overmuch, he approached the subject "with an open mind."

I simply had to smile because, and in spite of his profession, that was precisely what he did *not* do. And why? Just because, and without exception, we are all victims of preconceived convictions, preconceived prejudices, preconceived biases, ideas, philosophies, tenets and preferences, all of which lie deep in our subconscious, and surface only when the

occasion demands. Unfortunately for our scientific scruples, we tend to judge and doubt the evidence quite illogically and quite unfairly if it cuts across our own deeply held convictions. In effect, it really does take an utterly dispassionate, clinical, scientific, and *honest* mind to probe into the ufologcal wonder and yet have that moral stature and stability to truly sift the evidence.

So I would take with more than a pinch of salt, Mr. Julian H. Kaneko's contention (FSR Vol. 25 No. 6) that it is "up to the new generation of philosophers. . . to tackle the UFO mystery." Surely it must be appreciated by now that the search for the ufological identity is so immense in its overall implications that it incorporates each and every branch of learning known to mankind. As I have stated many times previously, from the objective demands of the professional Astronomer to the subjective disciplines of the devout Zen Buddhist, the A to Z alphabet of the UFO prodigy means that *nothing* can be eliminated in our quest for knowledge.

And this includes all the religious dogmas, taboos, and faith to which the writer so disparagingly refers. Certainly a number of the American astronauts on their return to Earth came back humbler, more thoughtful, and more religious individuals after viewing the immensity of space, and accompanying UFOs.

Indeed, I am becoming more and more convinced that whilst the search for scientific and objective truth becomes equally a more and more academic exercise, it is to the contactee, 'silent' or otherwise, we should turn to in our search for an explanation.

Yours sincerely,

R. Jones Pugh, M.R.C.V.S.
St. Brides View,
Roch,
Haverfordwest,
Pembrokeshire.
May 27, 1980.

Mirage mis-identified

Dear Sir, — I would draw your attention to FSR Vol. 25, No. 5, the article on "Jetliner 'Intercepted' by UFO near Valencia." On page 14 you publish a photograph purporting to be of a Spanish Air Force Mirage F1, supposedly involved in this incident.

I must point out that your photograph is, in fact, of a **French** Air Force Mirage V (or possibly Mirage III — rather hard to tell from this particular photo).

The Mirage F1 is a high-wing, swept-wing aircraft of normal design (i.e. with the conventional tailplane), whereas the Mirage Mks I to V are all low-wing aircraft of *delta* plan-form (with no tailplane). There are also other marked differences noticeable between the aircraft in your photo and a Mirage F1. (The Spanish Air Force uses the Mirage F1, Mirage IIIE, and Mirage IIID.)

I feel that it was pointless publishing this photograph, alleging it to be a particular aircraft involved in a UFO incident, when in fact it is nothing of the sort. An error glaringly obvious to even a casual aircraft spotter! Not at all in keeping with your excellent high-quality editing and reporting.

Thank you for FSR. Quite outstanding!

Yours faithfully,

Howard W. Hackett
Die Walküre,
19, Mayton Avenue,
Frettenham,
Norwich NR12 7LH.
May 20, 1980.

[And thank you for the timely correction. Unfortunately I am not a 'plane spotter and have to rely on the good faith of those who send such material and, in this case, on the translation too. As I have 100% confidence in translator, and have no reason to doubt the integrity of the author, I suspect that the source material consulted by Sr. Benítez was to blame — EDITOR]

Projection of holograms

Dear Sir, — I have noted with interest the tendency in recent editions of your commendable publication for your contributors to reappraise the extra-terrestrial hypothesis. J. G. Adams' article on holographic images especially intrigued me, for this explained away some of the supernatural effects which gave credence to the extra-dimensional theory.

Not only this, but I feel there is another point entangled in the whole holographic concept that Mr. Adams failed to bring out. Basically, he concentrated his speculations on the hominoid apparitions witnesses have reported, but further, I should like to propose that there would be little better device for use with holographic projections than the UFO itself! Surely this may explain the inertia-defying antics these craft appear to get up to? And, more importantly, might it not provide an answer to those sceptics who claim there are too many annual reports of UFOs for us to consider seriously their off-planetary origin?

Bearing in mind that our inroads into holography are in their infancy, is it beyond the bounds of possibility that the UFOnauts could be capable of projecting images of their craft from distances we may now consider quite impracticable?

Given that distance is no object to holographic projections of the future — our future — might both craft and entities be images directly from another planet?

Who is to say that, despite hopes to the contrary, we may discover interstellar travel to be impossible (too hazardous, psychologically incompatible, etc.). Would our logical alternative not be the sending of our images through space in place of our actual physical bodies? And, if naivete is inherent in sentient life forms, then would this not be the choice of whatever aliens are "visiting" us?

We may be no nearer to an explanation behind the aliens' reasoning (if indeed there be one), but it is reassuring to know we can come up with tenable solutions for their magic.

Yours sincerely,

John Machin,
17, Birch Road,
Congleton,
Cheshire CW12 4NN.
May 28, 1980.

Livingston encounter: are estimated figures correct?

Dear Editor, — FSR Vol. 25, No. 6 contains an article by Messrs. M. Keatman and A. Collins headed "Physical Assault. . ." (etc.) in which a Mr. Robert Taylor describes a "top" or "dome" shaped object. The article goes on to give measurements and says (quote) "Judging from measurements taken at site it would appear that the object had a diameter of approx. seven metres."

Sir, are you not getting you metres mixed up with your "feet"? Seven metres is surely 22ft. 9ins. and yet the artist's impression gives the appearance of the object as being not more than seven or eight *feet* in diameter. This would also be more in proportion with the smaller spheres mentioned in the article which were estimated by Mr. Robert Taylor of 2½ feet.

I find the description of rods, on which "blades" or "propellors" were evenly spaced, most intriguing. I have seen in a shop window, in Horsham, articles for sale which in the shape of a clear glass hollow ball approx. three inches in diameter, and inside this ball are two black metal propellors. They continually spin. Their motive power is solar energy.

I wonder if there could be a connection?

Yours sincerely,

F. Spittles,
15 Duppas Hill Road,
Croydon CR0 4BG.
May 21, 1980.

[The artist did not have access to the measurements: his drawing for the cover was based on a sketch by Mr. A. Collins. Perhaps the authors will check their estimated figures — EDITOR]

World round-up

of news and comment about recent sightings

USSR

CE3 (perhaps CE4) reported

We learn with great interest from the June 25, 1980, issue of *Weekend,* which reprinted, in shortened form, details of three UFO and entity cases, sent in by their Moscow correspondent Alan Henderson. One of these was an account from a copy of the newspaper *Pravda* (no date of incident, or of the issue of *Pravda,* was given):—

". . .the Russian newspaper *Pravda* has started publishing accounts of other strange sightings from different parts of the country.

"One that created. . .a stir. . .came from a vet, Dr. V. G. Paltsev. He said he found a grounded alien craft while on his rounds in the country, 500 miles south-east of Moscow.

"Beside it were three small 'humanoids' with egg-shaped heads and long fingers. As he approached, he too was knocked out by some strange force. When he recovered, his watch had stopped and he saw the saucer-shaped craft glow before rising and vanishing.

"After that, the vet dreamed repeatedly that he had been carried into the saucer while unconscious. And a doctor who questioned Paltsev under hypnosis said it seemed that he probably had been taken for a saucer ride."

United States of America

Lawman k.o'd by UFO?

The following report is an AP item about an incident which took place on the night of August 27, 1979, near Warren, Minnesota, which is taken from the *San Francisco Chronicle* of August 31, 1979,—

"A brilliantly lighted object that swept down on a deputy sheriff's patrol car and left it damaged and the officer unconscious remained a mystery yesterday.

"Aside from being shocked and having a mild case of 'welder's blindness,' Deputy Val Johnson was in good condition yesterday, three days after the incident. It happened early Monday on the flats of the agricultural Red River Valley in northwestern Minnesota.

"The chief investigator for the Center for UFO Studies, Allan Hendry, investigated the case. At his Evanston, Ill., headquarters yesterday, he said 'it is a most incredible case, and there are some most unusual clues,' including the two bent antennas, shattered windshield, broken headlamp and a small dent in the hood.

"A truly anomalous case,' said Hendry. 'We receive about 1000 tips of UFOs a year. We investigate by phone the most interesting ones. But in the event of an unusual case like this, where damage is involved, it's worth going out to see.'

"Hendry said he was intrigued by the fact there was no damage to the rim of the headlamp. Also, the radio antennas were bent over, but there was no evidence of paint marks, and the bugs on them hadn't been scraped off.

"The fact Johnson's wrist watch and the electric clock in the car each stopped for 14 minutes heightened the mystery.

"The Federal Aviation Agency and Grand Forks Air Base had no reports of aircraft in the area at the time of the incident. 'But it doesn't prove a plane wasn't there,' said Hendry.

"Johnson, 35, who apparently was unconscious for about 30 minutes after the incident, has worked at the Marshall County sheriff's office 2½ years. Sheriff Dennis Brekke said in a telephone interview that Johnson is a good worker, stable, with a wife and three children, and 'people like him real well.'

"Johnson intended to rest at his home in Oslo, Minn., yesterday but went to meet with reporters at the sheriff's office in Warren.

"I was pretty down in the dumps the first couple of days afterwards,' the officer said. 'I thought I was in mental difficulty.' "

* * * * *

From a copy of the *Chicago Sun-Times* of September 5, 1979 — sent to us by reader **John Van Osten** of Medinah, Ill. — we learn additionally that about 400 miles away from Warren, a motorist at Vermilion, South Dakota, had a similar experience. He said he squeezed his eyes shut; his eyes were not burned. That was two days after the Warren encounter.

USA/MARS

Life on the red planet?

In the *Daily Mail* of February 4, 1980, we read that,—

"There is life on Mars — but space experts are scared to say so for fear of being ridiculed.

"That is the claim made by top American scientist Dr. Robert Jastrow, who has studied data from the Viking mission to Mars in 1976.

"Dr. Jastrow, founder of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies says there is positive evidence of at least a primitive form of life on the red planet

"In a hard-hitting attack on the space agency in the prestigious *Science Digest* magazine, he says NASA has not revealed the facts because it is afraid of ridicule.

"He says: 'Scientists are very sensitive to being wrong. My only comment is that scientific caution is fine if you spend 30 dollars of your own money.

" 'But if you spend millions of dollars of somebody else's money you have to stand the heat. You have to confront the facts.

" 'Right now, the official announcement is that we don't think there's life on Mars.

" 'The taxpayer got a better return on the money he invested in Mars than he realises, but nobody has told him.'

"Repeated tests for Martian microbes on soil samples were positive, he says. A solution containing radio-active carbons was added to the Viking samples. 'The trick was to see if there were microbes eating this *food.*

" 'If there were, they would exhale radioactive carbon dioxide. if the Geiger counter clicked, that would mean the microbes were eating. The Geiger counter clicked thousands of times.'

"Dr. Jastrow says the team who did the tests have been under 'pressure' to say nothing. 'The microbe tests gave a clear, unmistakeable signal of life,' he added.

"NASA officials yesterday refused to comment."

Credit: **C. Poole** of Stockport

Australia

Car controlled by UFO in Tasmania

The following item is taken from a collection of reports appearing in *The Tasmanian Mail* of February 27, 1980,—

"Retired Police Officer Miss Costello was making a trip from Queenstown to Devonport, one she had made many times, on August 20 [1979] when the interior of her car was suddenly lit by a bright green light, almost as if the interior light was on.

"It was about 10km from the Waratah turnoff on the Murchison Highway when the strange happenings started.

"With a greenish glow cast through her vehicle she also noticed a larger-than-Venus sized green light had appeared behind her car.

(Concluded on page iii of cover)

DO AIRPORTS ATTRACT UFOs?

Jenny Randles

IN the Spring of 1978 FSR received a very large batch of reports from the *Daily Express* UFO bureau. Some of these were followed up by UFOIN investigators, and the cases have appeared in these pages. However, there were also stories — some most intriguing ones — that were impossible to pursue for various reasons. In this instance, for example, the witness did not wish communication or investigation because of fears that her husband, a devout UFO sceptic, might consider her unbalanced.

I refer to the letter from this lady because it appears to be of considerable interest, and also because it closely relates to the article by John Judge in FSR Vol. 24, No. 6, regarding sightings in the vicinity of Gatwick Airport, Sussex. Our astute witness also poses an interesting question — used as the title of this piece — and suggests that UFO researchers look into the density of UFO phenomena reports in relation to their proximity to airports.[1]

Unfortunately we shall have to use the pseudonym "Amy" for the witness.

Amy lives in Pound Hill, near Crawley, Sussex, which, readers will recall, features quite prominently in the cases referred to by John Judge. Her second sighting took place from there, but for an interesting earlier confrontation with the phenomenon, we must return to the days when Amy lived in South West London and used to travel on the 77a bus between Wandsworth and Wimbledon.

It was early Spring 1947, just prior to the era of the "Flying Saucers." Amy describes the day as "storm and sunshine," and as she travelled along on the top deck of the 'bus she watched dark clouds scudding about with gaps of blueness between them. The time was 4.30 p.m. and dusk was already beginning to approach.*

Amy has always been an avid reader, but something made her look up from her book. She still does not know what caused that — perhaps some kind of acute "feeling." To her right she saw a rounded disc that was shining silver and hovering, quite still, between two clouds. She attracted the attention of several other passengers, and they stared and watched for some minutes. Various theories were cast about, with one man saying it was a weather balloon. In answer to that another woman pointed out the clear rotation that they all observed, and the balloon idea was discarded. Then suddenly the object moved. In a blink of an eye it had streaked away to their right and vanished behind a cloud. It did not reappear. Discussion continued for a few moments, but presently, the bus arrived at Amy's destination and she had to get off.

Apparently there were a large number of reports of this object, followed by the inevitable "official statement." The object seen was a "weather balloon." Amy says, and I quote: "I am prepared to swear, all these years later, it was no meteorological balloon." She has good reason to be positive, as you will see later. Amy agrees this is ". . .hardly good evidence" but thinks that it might be of value as it occurred before the first rush of UFO sightings began.

We now have a jump of more than thirty years to November 1977. This was the second time that Amy observed a UFO. As she says: ". . .anyone who lives near an airport is well used to just about every type of air transport. . . we are used to helicopters hovering, circling planes, even 'disaster rehearsals' complete with flares." She says this to emphasise that she is accustomed to seeing strange things in the sky, and when something attracts her attention she knows it has to be unusual (she comments that her ears are so attuned to the sounds that she is able to tell — just from the noise — which particular type of aircraft has flown over).

It was a cold and frosty night, and Amy was drawing the curtains of a window that faces southwards. Once again something simply made her stare out into the sky, and she saw, close together but high up, two red spheres side by side. Their brilliance and their incandescent orange/red colour made them stand out. She made an estimate of altitude at 35,000 feet (for which it seems she is well qualified). Truly puzzled she called her husband over and he, and their eldest son, watched the objects for more than half an hour. She knew it was no astronomical phenomenon because there was absolutely no movement. The objects eventually disappeared by moving directly away in a straight line and merging into one light before vanishing.

As an explanation for "compulsion to look at the sky" Amy notes that she has a degree of ESP, although she tries to force this into the background because "life has no use or time for it." As for her ability to make accurate comments about aerial phenomena it should be mentioned that formerly Amy was an air traffic radar controller. As she says, ". . .with all those blips on the screens and interference from TV sets and radios that we sometimes get, it would be an excellent cover (to be near airports), with interesting 'data fields' as a bonus." Witnesses, too, would probably pass them off as "connected with the airport."

Amy believes that the UFOs which she and others have seen are extraterrestrial, and to close I will quote her feelings about such "aliens". . . "I hope to God they are an improvement on this world, and that humans are not His best efforts!" I think, be we ETH supporter or not, we would say 'hear hear' to that!

**[This would suggest late February rather than Spring, which in 1947 saw Britain in the grip of an icy winter right through to mid-March; a bleak time of fuel crises and rationing — EDITOR]*

Note

[1] While the idea has interesting merits, I imagine that it would be very difficult to compensate for the obvious fact that misidentifications of phenomena connected with the airport would increase with closer proximity to it. Hence, strictly speaking, the number of "UFO" reports would increase.

POSTSCRIPT TO NEW ELGIN

Patricia Donaldson

IN FSR Vol. 23, No. 4 there was an account by Jenny Randles of an investigation conducted by herself and Bryan Hartley into a report of a landed UFO and entities seen by two girls in the small town of New Elgin, Morayshire, Scotland on May 18, 1977. At the time UFOIN had only just commenced operations, and its membership in Scotland was almost non-existent. The investigation was, therefore, conducted by the unsatisfactory methods of telephone and postal communication.

However, early in 1979 I joined UFOIN and was asked to visit the area to make a full report for the UFOIN files. Some points of interest are noted here.

Firstly, I was struck by the way that the story was described to me almost in the precise terms that it had been given to the previous investigators. I was able to add little to the detail and found only one or two small discrepancies. It should be said that the participants had not seen the issue of FSR which carried the report until, after my interview, they were given one.

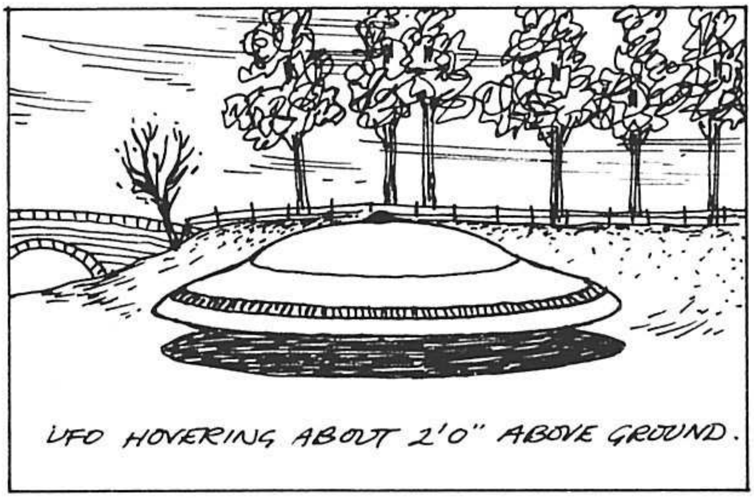
As the photograph indicates the actual site is somewhat different from the sketch drawing with the original report. It consists, in fact, of rather overgrown and bumpy terrain. It lies behind a pub, the Coter House, and consists of an old disused railway track with a small bridge. A grass bank surrounds the heavily overgrown depression where the tracks once were. This is three or four feet wide on either side. There are just a few trees surrounding the site and none blocked the view that the girls had of the landed object. The fence was in fact behind the railway and the object. The area is very quiet and almost traffic-free.

When the object landed, it straddled the depression of the line, resting on the grass bank on either side. When it took off it left to the witnesses' right (and not left as stated in the original article).

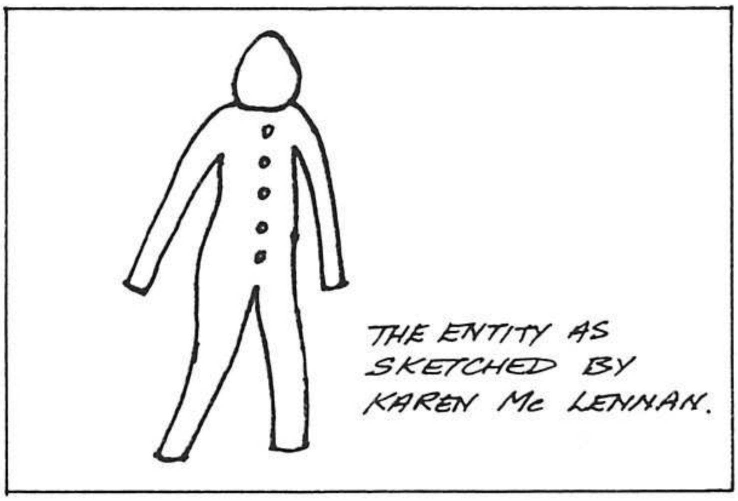
The only major difference in testimony concerns the entity seen. Height was about six feet and the suit was a

New Elgin landing site — mid foreground — with fence and trees in background.

shiny silver all over. No facial features were observed but a line of silvery buttons down the middle were seen. The arms were now stated to be disproportionately *long* where previously they were said to be short. This latter claim was also made to *The Sun* newspaper in March 1978 (less than a year after the event), and on *Radio Highland* a few months later.



Sketch by author of UFO at landing site.



There are a few other points to note. The police left the case unsolved, and the samples of burnt leaves that were collected and sent to UFOIN never arrived. This is apparently the second major trace data that vanished in

this way and prompted UFOIN to ban the sending of all important data — including original case reports — by post.

The mothers also found it very odd that the girls did not report the sighting until the day following the event. The girls have no answer for this, but it seems to have been a kind of mental block released the next day after the second report of the humming sound — almost like a post-hypnotic command.* Mrs. Morrison is in fact deaf in one ear, and says that she was most surprised to hear the high pitched humming noise which both mothers, and several neighbours heard at the time of the girls' sighting.

There have been two odd little sequels. Shortly after the case received some publicity Mrs. McLennan received a telephone call from a monotonous male voice which repeated the warning that she should tell nobody about the sighting if she valued her daughter's life. It concluded: "You will do exactly as I tell you. . .do you hear me?" The same call was made several times, but the police could not trace it. It may well be a hoax from someone with a warped mind but it upset Mrs. McLennan considerably. She had to escort Karen to and from school for some time afterwards.

More recently she says she has seen strange things in the vicinity of the landing site at night. She can see it from her bedroom window. These are lights that move about like torches seen late at night. She does not think they are poachers with flashlights (although they may be), and has been too scared to go and look. Certainly there are no car headlights which could be the cause, and the spot where they are seen is precisely that where the object landed.

Neither of the witnesses or their mothers had an interest in UFOs before the event, and the girls still do not — although the mothers do to some extent. They were all very co-operative and I found no reason to doubt the testimony.

*A similar feature was found in the Gaynor Sunderland CE3 of July 1976 (see FSR Vol. 25, No. 3), although the time delay in this case was longer.

RESEARCH REPORT — No. 2

Jenny Randles

FROM time to time in FSR and other publications, articles have been carried about the great waves of Airship Sightings which took place outside of the USA. So far as Britain is concerned there were two major waves — in 1909 and in 1913. One or two of the more publicised reports within these waves are widely known, but until quite recently their full nature had not been examined.

Now a team of four researchers is working on a highly detailed analysis of the two waves, in particular the more thoroughly documented one of 1913 (which actually began with a sighting in Sheerness in October 1912, and otherwise mostly centred on February 1913). Nigel Watson is co-ordinating the research, and he has been receiving support from John Hind (Ireland), Granville Oldroyd (Northern England) and Robert Rickard (Southern England).

These people have been examining with great care the microfilm records of local newspapers searching for reports and comment (of which there appears to have been a fair amount). The trail led them to Hansard — which records all the proceedings of the Houses of Parliament — with some revealing results. At the time of writing this column there is evidence of an official government enquiry (perhaps the very first official study of UFO reports) and attempts are being made to pursue this.

The team intend to publish the results of their work, either in a booklet or in a series of articles, and from what I have seen of the early results this is going to prove of immense value to ufologists. It will amount to a detailed study of the development of a wave — which was *not* viewed as spaceships, but rather in a context totally relevant to the time (a possible German invasion of Britain from the air). Interestingly the press dubbed these "UFOs" as "scareships."

I have no desire to steal the thunder of what could be a very significant piece of UFO research, but I will give you a few tasters of what is to come.

The reports, which are many, appear to concentrate almost exclusively on British ports. There are relatively few sightings inland. They were virtually *all* nocturnal, and rarely were the objects definitely seen as airships. The supposition that they were airships seems to have been much the same mechanism as we see nowadays when UFOs are automatically interpreted as spaceships. So, we might ask, did this presupposition have an effect on the visual interpretation of what was reported? It seems in the main that lights were all that were visible.

The interpretation of the phenomenon as being overflights by German airships was debated fiercely in parliament, and the First Lord of the Admiralty stated in 1913 that German airships were very probably visiting Britain. The First Lord was none other than Winston Churchill. Indeed an Aerial Defence Act was rushed through parliament in double-quick time to try to alleviate what was seen as an ominous situation.

Meanwhile, over in Germany, the press and official sources were having a field day laughing at the British panic. They were adamant that German airships were quite incapable of doing what they were claimed to have done and, as I expect the final report will prove, this hypothesis for the sightings is quite untenable.

There were other important sidelights to the wave — all of which we can recognise from modern day counterparts. Hoaxes were perpetrated (for example people in Humberside were fooled by pranksters with a lighted box-kite). Even our old friend Venus was scientifically "proven" to be responsible for one sighting!

I believe that this research will prove to be of considerable importance because we will be able to compare a UFO wave that occurred *before* the spaceships era with one

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Artwork: Terence Collins

that occurred afterwards (and there are enough of those to choose from!) This team is to be congratulated on their far-seeing work.

If you would like to contact them with any ideas or suggestions, or if you are in a position to offer information of your own that you might have, or if you wish to offer direct assistance in the work (which I am sure they would appreciate) then please contact:—

Nigel Watson, 1 Angerstein Rd, Scunthorpe, South Humberside DN17 2LZ.

Finally, for the information of all those who wrote following Research Report No. 1 about the Historical data catalogue series, I can advise that the first part of the Northern England catalogue should be published by the time you read this. Cost will be approximately £5 and will include *two* publications (one with all the data, and one with the maps and indexes relevant to it). If you wish further information then write to either myself or the co-ordinator of the series, who is:—

Bernard Delair, 19 Cumnor Rd, Wootton, Boars Hill, near Oxford.

* * * * *

If you have any information on Research Projects which you would like to promote via RESEARCH REPORT then write to me at:—

8 Whitethroat Walk, Birchwood, Warrington, Cheshire WA3 6PQ.

WORLD ROUND-UP

(continued from page 29)

"Continuing over a rise in the road, Miss Costello noticed that her 1971 VW station wagon, which had been functioning correctly, failed to gain any speed as expected.

"She pressed the accelerator but the VW slowed to about 50km/hr.

"Mis Costello then pressed the accelerator to the floor but the vehicle did not alter speed and the engine failed to increase its revs.

"Next she changed down gears, from top to third, and finally to second but the revs remained unchanged.

"Miss Costello noticed the dashboard clock was on 9.20 p.m. (not correct time).

The light somehow seemed to remain the same height and distance away during the entire event.

"Next she tried the footbrake and, although the pressure felt normal, there was no slowing effect in the VW — heavier pressure also brought no result.

"About one kilometre from the Waratah turnoff the light just disappeared and the interior of the car returned to normal.

"The vehicle at once picked up speed and Miss Costello noticed the dashboard clock was still on 9.20 p.m. She later found that her wristwatch had also stopped at 9.28 p.m.

"Initially she thought two to three minutes had passed during the sighting but on checking the distance involved (the light was visible for eight to 10km) she estimated the event took more like 10 to 15 minutes.

"Reaching her destination there was one more surprise — although the fuel tank was full on leaving Queenstown the gauge was down to empty on arrival.

"The car had never used more than half a tank of petrol on the same trip before.

"Since the event both the VW and wrist watch have worked normally.

Credit: **Liselotte Tarling** of East Grinstead.

The Editor regrets that part III of "Physical Assault by unidentified objects at Livingston" by Martin Keatman & Andrew Collins has had to be held over until our next issue.

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The flying saucer necktie was introduced in 1962 to indicate (1) a serious interest in the subject and (2) a willingness to discuss it. After a few years the tie was allowed to lapse because it was felt the subject required scientific study rather than club enthusiasm. However, now that the study of UFO reports has become world-wide we have successfully revived the tie as a token of serious scientific study for all mankind.

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